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IN THIS WEEKS ISSUE

Auld Lang Syne (The perspectives, the politics and the parties)

Interview with "magnetic" photographer Frank Parsley

World's first Gay & Lesbian Skydiving Team takes a jump into history books



Larry White of the Gay & Lesbian Skydiving Team, enjoying free falling

By TAD NELSON

Houston Voice Publisher

Tired of the Boot Scoot Boogie? Jogging and bicycling seeming a little mundane? Blind dates not the thrill they used to be?

If you're seeking an adventure that will take you to new heights, there's a new organization forming that may be just the ticket for you. How does the Gay & Lesbian Skydiving Team strike you? Scary. Dangerous. Difficult. Expensive. These are some adjectives that may come to mind. But according to members of the team, the experience is well worth the challenge of overcoming initial fears and, as with any sport or hobby, the cost of commitment.

Let's tackle first things first. Is skydiving scary? According to members of the team, yes. In the beginning, most divers report that their first jump was scary and the second terrifying. But from there on it only becomes easier. As one finally becomes comfortable with the feeling of being in the air, the fear gradually disappears.

Now, how much danger is involved? If one maintains a healthy respect for the sport along with constant attention and care, it can be safe, especially with the development over the years of highly refined equipment. When you hear a news report about a skydiving fatality or injury, it

usually includes a phrase like "parachute failed to open." the truth is, the parachute will almost always open if it is activated properly.

Is it very difficult to learn? Not really, but it takes perseverance. There are several qualified safe programs for learning the basics of skydiving. For one thing, the experience of being in the air without any "surface" to touch, is totally alien to the human psyche. Add this to the fact that you free fall for 30 to 60 seconds at a time and you may see that it would take many times to get the hang of it.

I first learned of the about the team when I spoke recently with Larry White, owner of Larry's Place Antiques and Consignments at 3917 Main Street in Houston, at a Christmas party. It had been quite a while since we spoke to each other and after the respectable "How do you do's" we did some serious catching up on each others past year. During his explanation of what was up, he hinted that the sky was! Seriously, he told me that he was now a member of a Gay & Lesbian Skydiving Team. Well, that certainly got my attention.

Larry explained that the team is currently 40 or so members, mostly professional people; doctors, psychiatrists, nurses, retailers, accountants and

the like. These members meet frequently for training and actual diving.

The initial cost of certification is \$1,200, and after that it costs members \$12 per jump. Larry said he jumps about four times per week, weather permitting.

"It's so exciting! It's really better than sex." Larry blushingly continued, "I can't believe I'm telling you that, but I really don't look for dates these days. I had always wanted to skydive, but there was always somebody else to consider or say no. I'm single these days and since there is no one to hold back on my reigns, I'm doing what I want to do and I want to skydive. It's great! It takes up most of my free time."

Better than sex? My curiosity was now aroused and I began asking questions.

"Did you build up to this by bungee jumping?" I asked.

"No!," White said. "That's crazy. Anyone who would tie a rubber band on their leg and jump from a platform is crazy!"

Okay, I thought. "But did free falling make you feel sick?"

"The first time," Larry explained, "I did feel a bit queasy, but now I run for the open plane door when it's my turn."

(Continued on page 5)

What went right: organizer looks back on watershed event of 1993

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

The 1993 March on Washington—the Gay and Lesbian rights march that might also go down in history as the largest civil rights demonstration ever in our nation's capital—was for most participants the definitive event of the year in which the American mass media and public discovered gays. However, for a Houston woman who spent several months in Washington, D.C. putting together the nuts and bolts that ran the eventually successful march machinery, it was also a powerful learning experience.

Deborah Bell, currently a co-host on the KPFT radio program "Lesbian and Gay Voices," served as national organizer of the march, officially titled "The 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation." In that role, Bell says she was able to get a close-up view not only of the

someone told me, 'yeah, but he's going to Houston,'" she quipped.

The ultimate experience, however, was in seeing "the realization of what the organizers of the march had wanted to happen," Bell said. Her vantage point, she noted, was distinctly different than that of most of the estimated 1 million celebrants who descended on D.C. April from 23-26, 1993.

"I think most people have absolutely no idea of the reality, of what it took to put that march together," she said. "I think I personally believed all along that it would be at least as big as (the march in) 1987, probably bigger, because of everyone being so fed up. But even I didn't really know everything that went into planning such an event."

Bell credited the march organizing committee, and particularly, co-chair Billy Hileman, for assuring the smooth outcome



The 1993 March on Washington brought together one million Gays, Lesbians and their supporters, and was the year's most memorable event for many Houston participants (Photo by Mitch Froelich)

behind-the-scenes organizing that went into that event, but other events that shaped 1993 as a year of political "firsts" for lesbians and gay men.

"It was my incredible year. I got to travel all over the country. I got to go to an inaugural ball—to see an inauguration, one where (Lesbians and Gays) were welcome. I got to see the (Names Project) Quilt and meet its founder, Cleve Jones," said Bell.

"I also got to wave goodbye to the plane carrying George Bush away. Of course, right then

of the spectacular combined pride parade/protest march itself. The Washington committee, however, was but a core group within a much larger network of volunteers, all over the country, who worked countless hours to realize a dream, she said.

"It was one of the most incredible volunteer efforts of any kind, ever," she said. "The Mayor of Washington, D.C. said ours was the most organized march ever staged in the city."

(Continued on Page 6)

# A conversation with photographer and Texas magnet magnate Frank Parsley



Much of Parsley's work is erotic, but artistic, and New Orleans is one of his favorite subjects

## YOURS TRULY IN A SWAMP

By LEONARD EARL JOHNSON  
Houston Voice/New Orleans

Frank Parsley is a jovial sort who wears gracefully the denim clothes popular in his native Texas. He is an accomplished photographer whose homo-erotic "Refrigerator Art" icebox magnets may have caught your eye.

Throughout the United States, stores catering to an "alternative market" display Parsley's magnets. Usually on metal boards but sometimes, Parsley says with a grin, "On half refrigerators or icebox doors. That looks good,

mounted on the wall."

Refrigerator Art is also available through Shocking Gray, the gay owned, operated, and oriented national mail-order catalog out of San Antonio. "They handle six of my magnets," Parsley says. Recently Walt Henry, the national homo-erotic art dealer located in the unlikely town of Jenison, Michigan (population 11,266) has added Parsley to his stable of artist. "I do both magnets and prints for Henry."

Parsley came to his craft along the familial path of Parsley Studios, his family's photograph

studio on Yale Street in Houston. "We do the portraits and weddings." This is the white bread and pale butter of most photographers. Not the life for Frank Parsley.

Though a "Houston boy," Parsley's magnets' central theme is the urbane sights of New Orleans. "Not my native town, but a town I've loved since I was a boy." Parsley is fifty-one. "Since last year, I've made a living off my magnets of New Orleans images."

One of Parsley's images is of "Ruthy, the Duck Lady," a glittering French Quarter character in that huge galaxy of Crescent City characters. Another show the front sign of the Lesbian and Gay Commu-

nity Center on Rampart Street, across from Louis Armstrong Park.

Parsley loves to wander the streets of New Orleans around Carnival time. "That's when I catch some of my most erotic images." Images like a young, pendulous breasted woman in a black leather brassier; a well shaped young man in lowered trousers and sculpted jockey shorts; and an exquisite belly buttoned torso—of any sex—sporting stone washed jeans and a Dixie Beer T-shirt.

"I did a barroom show at a place in Houston called the Venture-N. Kind of a leather/levi place, like Mary's. I did a Mardi Gras show, during Mardi Gras. It was successful and that got me started."

LEJ: "You don't have Mardi Gras in Houston, do you?"

FP: "No, but in the last four or five years they've been doing a Mardi Gras in Galveston."

LEJ: "That's not so far out, the original North American Mardi Gras was in Mobile. Most coastal cities have Carnival."

"There is something about New Orleans," Parsley says in his Houston drawl, "something I just feel good about, good about being here."

LEJ: "You know about the love/hate relationship between Texas, particularly Houstonians, and New Orleanians?"

FP: "Well, not exactly. Tell me."

LEJ: "The ideal is New Orleanians think Texan have all the money but we have all the class. We love you for your flamboyant strut on life's stage and your good sense to want to come to New Orleans. If we were honest, we like you so much we'd love to be like you, and this makes us angry."

FP: "Who wouldn't want to photograph such people?"



Houston photographer Frank Parsley has elevated the refrigerator magnet to a sophisticated art form

# Rochester, Minn. refuses to extend legal protections to gays

ROCHESTER, Minn., Wednesday, Dec. 22 (AP)—The City Council has torpedoed a proposal to add gays to the list of protected groups in its human rights ordinances, sparking accusations of homophobia from proponents of the amendment.

However, City Council president Nancy Selby said the proposal was rejected in part because gays and lesbians already have protection under state human rights laws.

The City Council voted 6-1 Monday to reject the proposal, which would have prohibited discrimination in housing, education, public accommodations and employment on the basis of sexual orientation.

The proposal was endorsed last month on a 6-0 vote by the Rochester Human Rights Commission and had been promoted by the Rochester Area Task Force on Sexual Orientation Issues, a group of private citizens.

Mary Wallace, a regional coordinator for the Southeast Minnesota AIDS Project, said Tuesday that discrimination against gays is real, if subtle.

"It has to do with attitudes that say it's OK to harass, to talk negatively about, to verbally abuse people who you perceive to be gay, lesbian or bisexual, whether they are or not," she said.

Selby said it makes no sense for the city to dupli-

cate what the state already has done.

"That's a red herring," Wallace said. If the council is concerned about duplicating state protections, she said, then it should scrap the whole local human rights ordinance.

Wallace said the amendment would have enabled gays in Rochester who believed they had been victims of discrimination to press charges at the local level.

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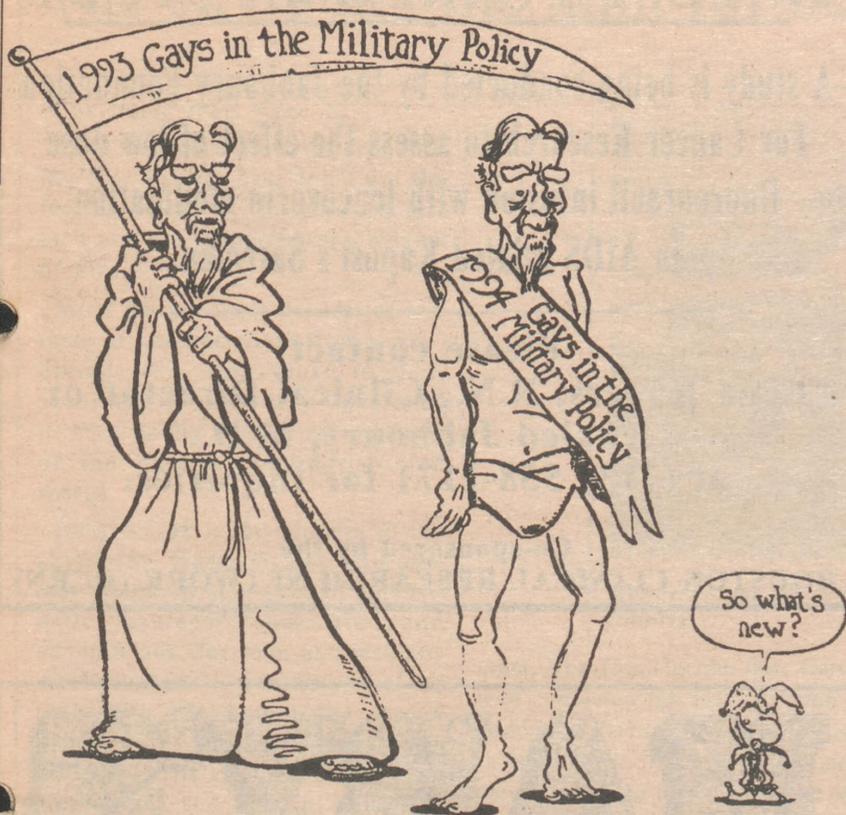
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## Brady's Corner



### Malls wrecked, people helped

From CAL MORAN

The Colt 45's

The "Wreck the Malls Show" held at the BRB for the Pink Cross Fund, which helped the victims of the pre-Thanksgiving tornado here in the Houston community, resurrected Florence Nightingale through our own Lady Victoria Lust. Among her assistant nurses, the management and staff of the BRB, Miss Camp America members, the Whore-

house Girls, members of the Garden Party, members of the RSICSS, Chablis Lee Love, and Miss BRB Shelby St. John all reached out a hand to those who suffered from this devastating act of nature.

With the support of those who are willing to help others through their talents and with the support of a giving community that shares its blessings with those less fortunate, we will continue to grow as a Community that truly does contain Unity.

## Right wing is America's problem, not the answer

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From: (Name Withheld By Request)  
Houston, Texas

John Burt, the anti-abortion spokesperson and leader in Pensacola is affiliated with Operation Rescue (a right wing fundamentalist organization based in Houston). He is an admitted and well-known member of the Ku Klux Klan in a small city near Pensacola.

I find it appalling, shameful, disgusting and absurd that a member or official of an organization that has stalked, harassed, assaulted, lynched and murdered so many blacks, Jews, gays and etc. (and even burned their homes) over the years would be leading such a crusade. Burt and his supporters even have the gall to use and invoke Christianity, God, the Bible, "family values" and/or morality while doing so.

Since the election of President Clinton, I have noticed a huge increase in right-wing/Ku Klux Klan/White Supremacist group activities and violence nationwide. Such elements have admitted (after arrests and investigations) their involvement in a rash of NAACP office/abortion clinic firebombings, arsons, assaults and murders in Pensacola, Florida, Tacoma, Washington, Sacramento, California, Houston and numerous other cities.

At the same time, some anti-abortion right-wingers and fundamentalists have begun a crusade of accusing abortion clinic owners or staff of intentionally setting these fires for insurance purposed or other motives. This is a smokescreen clearly designed to stone-

wall police investigations, court action and public opinion. Obviously, they do not practice or believe in the 9th Commandment which tells us not to bear false witness.

In view of this deplorable situation, I could never vote for or support right-wing fundamentalists, their Republican allies or causes.

I well remember many right-wing fundamentalist ministers and leaders and the national head of the Ku Klux Klan endorsing and promoting Reagan and Bush during the 1980 presidential race. At the time, I did not hear any fundamentalist leaders or clergy publicly denounce or criticize this Klan endorsement. I did not hear Reagan, Bush or any of their staff members publicly denounce or criticize this endorsement.

It appears to me that the only real enemies of many right-wing fundamentalists and Republicans are people who (constantly) speak out against and/or oppose the takeover of our government by big-time criminals, the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazi (fascists), White Supremacists and other such elements.

America is fast becoming a cesspool of guns, street gangs, crime, drugs, rude, unfriendly and cliquish people. I happen to see the constant violence, anti-constitutional individual rights attitude, lawlessness, neo-Nazi (fascist) agenda, bigotry and hate of right-wingers and fundamentalists as a major addition to the aforementioned problems rather than any sort of a solution.

I fully understand this very dangerous crisis that our country and we in the gay community are now facing.

# OPINION

## Anti-gay referenda shouldn't keep us on the defensive in 1994

### GUEST COMMENTARY

By RICHARD D. MOHR

Gays did not fare well by democratic processes in 1993, and the prospects for 1994 look at least as bleak. Might we learn something from '93 that will help us in '94?

In November, we saw the first ever piece of Presidentially-signed legislation mandating discrimination against gay individuals, the military ban, which passed Congress by lopsided votes in both House and Senate. By equally wide margins gays lost every anti-gay referendum initiative right across the country from Oregon counties to Cincinnati, Lewiston, and Portsmouth. The last was a particularly gratuitous slam, for the referendum was merely an advisory vote covering governmental, not private sector, employment. Clearly these votes have nothing to do with the specific of civil rights protections; they are simply thumbs cast up or down on gay existence. The year saw only two legislative successes. In April, Minnesota passed a state wide gay rights bill; and in June, Nevada eliminated its unenforced sodomy law, though at the same stroke it turned its much prosecuted crime of public indecency into a felony offense bearing a six-year sentence—not clearly progress.

The chief site of democratic proc-

esses for gays in 1994 will be referenda, like Colorado's Amendment 2, which barred a state and its divisions from passing gay civil rights protections (and which was ruled unconstitutional by District Judge Jeff Bayless this month). Conservative and religious groups already have in place the machinery to put such initiatives on November ballots in as many as twelve states, including Florida, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Oregon, Texas, and Washington.

Past record suggests that whatever efforts gays sink into these initiatives, we will lose the vast majority—possibly all—of them. I suggest that we simply write these efforts off, or at least not treat them as a major focus of gay political work—for two reasons.

First, work on such initiatives is overly intense and narrow. They generate huge amounts of instant gay activity and energy, but this bustle and thrill is the political equivalent of a sugar high. The day after the vote, the energy, money, and heady vibes are gone. People are burnt out, frequently devastated, and no lasting institutions have been established since the focus of the effort was on just one day.

Second, in referendum initiatives our opponents control the agenda. Gays are from the start

always placed on the defensive, haplessly trying to explain why we aren't the way our opponents paint us—as civilization-destroying, child-molesting plaque-bearers. Our opponents from have instant access to the culture's repository of anti-gay stereotypes, and so can code and disperse their emotion-targeted message with telegraphic speed and precision. Direct democracy is sound-bite, platitude, and sentiment, not fact, idea, and argument. Strategically we simply can't compete in these forums.

After a defeat, however crushing, gay leaders usually have a last hurrah and claim "we 'really' did win, because this was a chance to educate society about gay people." But if one examines the gay tactics actually used, it is clear that this is a lie. However large and mass produced, a placard saying only 2: Stand Up Against Discrimination" does no educating about gay people. Notice that gayness literally goes unmentioned—just the way our opponents want us.

The other common tactic is to claim, "We are just like you." This claim is rhetorically self-defeating, since it leaves the determination of its truth to those who in fact never have occasion to say they are like us. This recognition is the kernel of truth in Quentin Crisp's witticism that "people who are

normal never go around saying they are normal." Yet in consequence of such self-defeating accommodation, our distinctive value and virtues, with their educative power, never even get represented in the "debate."

Gay politicians and thinkers of quick accommodation, writers like Bruce Bauer and Hunter Madsen, fail to remember the classic anti-gay joke that "a fag is a homosexual gentleman who has just left the room." In the voting booth, the gentleman has left the room and the bigot is left to his own feelings.

Progress will be made only when we change those feelings. And that will occur not by accommodating them, but by changing the culture that bears and nurtures them. Gays now have creative access to the machinery of cultural change—the media, the arts, books, magazines, education, talk shows, movies, plays, private persuasion, op-ed pages, conferences, pop music, computer networks, even religious study groups. Our hope for a better future lies in these vectors of transformation rather than in poster paint and cardboard.

(Editor's note: Richard D. Mohr is the author of "Gays/Justice," "Gay Ideas," and the soon forthcoming "A More Perfect Union: Why Straight America Must Stand Up For Gay Rights (March, Beacon Press).

## NMC Homecare offering free dietary assessment; Jabboury Foundation enrolling for Kaposi's trial

### HEALTH NEWS NOTES

Malnutrition, a well-documented problem of HIV disease that further threatens the immune system, should be identified and managed, according to Harriet Mantini, general manager of NMC Homecare, a national provider of home infusion and respiratory therapy services. In recognition of the need for these services, NMC Homecare is offering a complimentary dietary assessment in Houston to individuals in any stage of HIV disease throughout Jan. 1994, she said.

"This assessment will help individuals maintain an appropriate diet as well as begin to learn the importance of nutrition in HIV disease," Mantini said.

Mantini explained that AIDS patients experience multiple infections and complications, many due to a weakening of the body's immune system. "Good nutritional status can be very helpful in supporting the immune system." She adds that since many HIV-positive individuals experience a decrease in appetite, decreased absorption of nutrients, and an increase in nutritional needs, maintaining nutritional status becomes a significant challenge.

HIV-positive individuals are invited to undergo a nutritional assessment, the first step in the process of developing a nutrition care plan, she said. This may involve a screening of the medical records to determine the presence of complications that impact on nutritional status as well as completing a detailed dietary and nutritional status assessment with an NMC Homecare dietitian.

To arrange for a complimentary

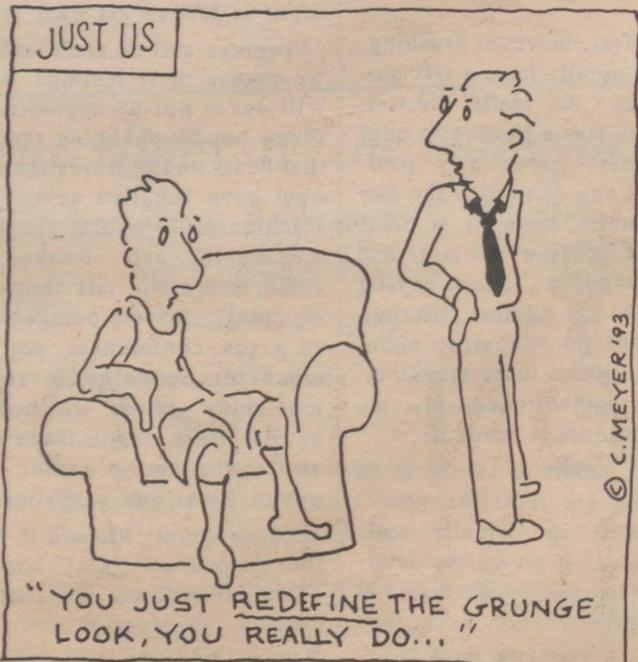
nutrition assessment, call NMC Homecare at 1-800-942-1928.

### Jabboury Foundation enrolling for clinical trial

The Jabboury Foundation for Cancer Research is currently enrolling patients in a Phase II clinical trial for AIDS related Kaposi's Sarcoma. For information on this study, contact Lena Rogers, R.N., Clinical Research Director, at (713) 558-1171.

The Jabboury Foundation is a non-profit organization which was founded by Khaled Jabboury, M.D., a practicing oncologist at West Houston Medical Center. During many years of academic medicine at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Dr. Jabboury became very involved in clinical research. When he went into private practice, however, it became increasingly difficult to continue this involvement. It was this continuing desire to participate in clinical trials that led to the formation of the foundation, representatives said.

The mission of the Jabboury Foundation is provide access to clinical trials outside of the university or academic setting for community based physicians and their patients. This allows a patient to remain under the care of his primary physician while participating in the most current research available. The foundation also sponsors the HIV/AIDS section of Select Talk, a free information service coordinated by Southwestern Bell Yellow Pages. Information is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at (713) 878-8000.



## KAPOSI'S SARCOMA STUDY

A study is being conducted by the Jabboury Foundation For Cancer Research to assess the effect of low dose fluorouracil infusion with leucovorin modulation in AIDS related Kaposi's Sarcoma.

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## The sky's not the limit for new Gay and Lesbian sports group

(Continued from page 1)

Most skydivers describe free falling like flying. You don't get the feeling of falling. In fact, you feel as if you are supported on a column of air.

Most people have dreams at one time or another about flying. Skydiving feels very close to that, according to those who have tried it. Free falling is reported to be one of the greatest feelings in the world.

John Grisak is the founder of the skydiving team. Grisak explains that the group is in need of enthusiastic, athletic, committed and adventurous Gay men and lesbians who would like to become part of the team. To his knowledge it's a world's first, and he said he hopes the team will help break the Gay stereotypes and build pride in our community.

Grisak, along with White (co-chair) and other board members Kirsten Johnson, co-chair; Candace Jones, treasurer; Chris Oliver, assistant treasurer; and Greg Ledford, secretary are just a part of this dedicated group of Gay men and Lesbians.

Even though they are a new organization that is still in the early stages of development, the team is excited about some recent invitations that have been extended to



Members of the Gay & Lesbian Skydiving Team get safety training

them. The first, by the Gay Games, who contacted the team to open the games by diving into Shea Stadium in New York. According to Larry, they want to do it, but there are very few of the membership who will have the required 250 plus jumps under their belts to complete the stunt. But White said that they will probably use a combination of video on big screens and a few qualified jumpers.

The team has also been contacted by Stonewall 25 to somehow play a part (perhaps in opening ceremonies) in that historical celebration of Gay rights, set for next June in New York.

And finally, independent film

maker, Jana Birchum of Austin is currently in production on a documentary about Houston's Gay & Lesbian Skydiving Team. With other assignments completed, such as the recent Gay Rodeo event in Fort Worth for Texas Monthly and another article for Out Magazine about Cowgirls, Jana is fast becoming known for her work in mainstream as well as Gay circles. She has entered work in Gay film competitions around the globe and hopes to enter this year's Cannes Film Festival. Her work with the Gay & Lesbian Skydivers has already prompted photo layouts for Genre and Advocate. With these credentials, it's no wonder the team is proud to have Jana film-

ing and interviewing each of them and their efforts in "getting off the ground," so to speak.

White also explained that the team is looking for sponsors, preferably of the large corporate type. Maybe a beer distributor, or a liquor company or Gay long distance company (hint, hint).

"We have filed for our not for profit status (501(c)3) and would love to have a sponsor's logo on our parachutes as we glide into that stadium for the Gay Games," White said. But it will take some big bucks to take the whole team." But White did say that sponsors of all sizes are welcomed as well as private funding and donations to make the dream team fly.

If you think you might be interested in joining the team or in becoming a sponsor, they meet every week (weather permitting) at the Houston Gulf Airport (Spaceland) off of I-45 South in Clear Lake. There are also occasional meetings at Charlie's Restaurant in Montrose. Look for promotional spots about the team at one of your local clubs. (Several that were mentioned by White were, J.R.'s, Heaven, The Ranch, The Brazos River Bottom and Rich's). For additional information contact John Grisak at 480-0202 during the day or 334-4813 during evening hours.

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# March epitomized year's successes despite flaws, says organizer

(Continued from Page 1)

"I have a lot of pride that it was ultimately such a grass roots effort, and it turned out the way it did. I think for most people who were there, it was probably the most inspiring moment of their lives."

The event did not evolve without a hitch, but in spite of many, Bell admitted. "One of the things that hindered organizing was that there wasn't enough money early on. There were things that we said we could do, that we ultimately weren't able to, because the money wasn't available." For example, Bell said, the committee at first intended to send registration packets to each pre-paid participant. One of the ways the national committee raised funds to facilitate organizing was to charge registration fees, and those registering were told that they would receive a march kit, Bell said. "It was one of the heartbreaks of the march, for me. It felt like we were breaking a promise. But there was nothing we could

do," said Bell, who is still sensitive about criticisms the march and committee have received since April. "There were other things that, because we didn't have the money, didn't happen in a timely manner."

Part of the problem, Bell theorizes, was that the march idea was slow to catch on nationally, in part because national gay and lesbian organizations were slow to endorse it. "The call didn't really go out to the people early enough," she said.

Organizers, said Bell, were also frustrated by early publicity from critics who believed the march platform was too broad and unfocused. "They just didn't get the connection, that this was everybody's march," she said. The inclusiveness of the platform, committee structure and planning of march functions resulted from hours of pre-march planning in regional and national meetings; it represented the wishes of a very broad and

diverse coalition, who represented an equally diverse constituency.

Critics even assailed the name of the march as "too long," recalled Bell. Her own title on the committee, though not as long, was shortened from "National Organizing Facilitator." Even longer, however, was the one she jokingly suggested to co-organizers who asked how she would like to be addressed: "Supreme Mega-Grand Diva of the Whole F—ing Universe." (Around the Washington office, Bell said that after making the comment, she was stuck with the shortened nickname, "Grand Diva.")

People who complained after the march about mainstream media coverage of "fringe" groups who participated also don't get it, Bell said. "There are people, mostly white men, who are always asking why we can't try to be more like the mainstream. Well, as (lesbian comic) Kate Clinton says, the main stream is shallow and nar-

row. "Being gay is more than just sexual orientation. It's a culture, and I don't want that culture taken away from me. I don't want to see the gay and lesbian community assimilate to the point of invisibility."

In planning the surrounding events of the march, "we were very conscious of portraying and including the diversity of our community," said Bell, noting that some non-gay celebrities who had asked to speak were turned away.

Telling her version of a small controversy that erupted on the rally stage, Bell insisted that committed members did not try to bar Larry Kramer, a gay playwright with AIDS, from the stage. "He wasn't on the (speaker) schedule," she said. "We had time constraints, and we had already decided on the speakers for each of the issues. (Another speaker) turned the microphone over to Larry. It wasn't intended as an insult, he just wasn't scheduled to speak."

But in spite of glitches before and during the event, Bell counts the march as the climactic moment in a year more memorable for successes than setbacks. "The main accomplishment of 1993 was our visibility," she said. "We got six hours on C-Span...kids in Podunk Town got to see us for who we are," she said.

"There were actually more successes than failures in 1993. Colorado (Amendment 2) was passed in 1992, it was overturned in '93. Even though we didn't get everything we wanted, there has been progress," said Bell. "Of course, there has been a backlash. But, in a way, I kind of like it when our enemies come out. It shows us where they are. Being that child of the 60's that I am, I can see what's really happening. We are the last great (rights) revolution in this country."

Does Bell think the energy and inspiration will carry on into 1994?

"On to Stonewall!" she said.

## Colorado judge asked to rule on other issues

DENVER, Thursday, Dec. 23 (AP)—The state on Wednesday asked the Denver judge who found Colorado's anti-gay-rights initiative unconstitutional last week to rule on issues raised by the state that he did not address in his decision.

Attorney General Gale Norton made the request in a motion entered before Denver District Judge Jeffrey Bayless, who declared Colorado's Amendment 2 unconstitutional

in a decision issued Dec. 14. The state plans to appeal his ruling to the Colorado Supreme Court.

Bayless' decision said the initiative approved by Colorado voters in Nov. 1992 violated the equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution because it denied homosexuals equal access to the political process. Amendment 2 barred governments from passing laws that protect homosexuals from discrimina-

tion. In her motion, Norton said Bayless' decision, which came after a two-week trial of a lawsuit challenging Amendment 2 brought by six individuals and three cities, did not address several other issues the state had raised in its defense of the initiative.

Those issues included the plaintiffs' claims regarding the right to petition, freedom of

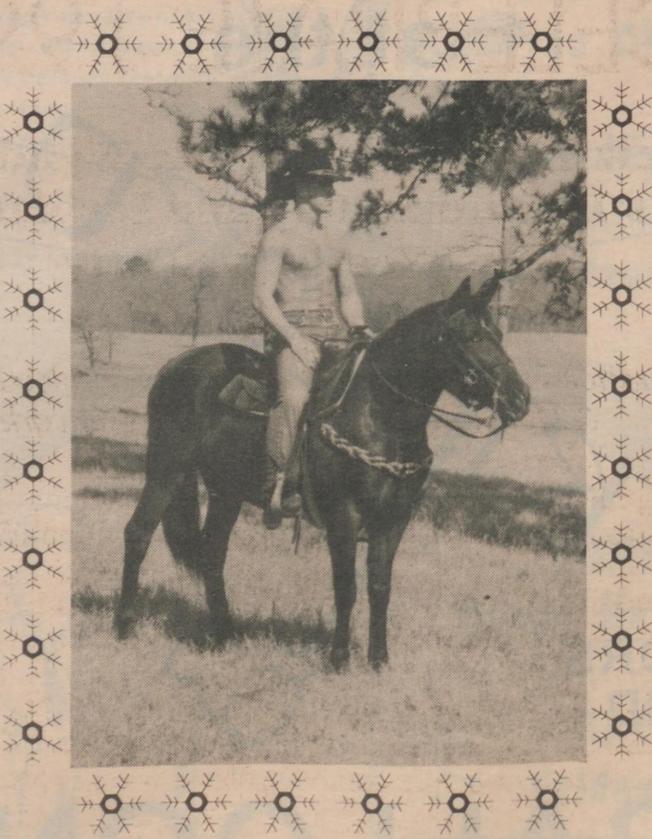
association, freedom of expression, supremacy clause, vagueness, home rule powers and school district powers, Norton said.

"This motion will ensure that all issues in this case are fully resolved, and that the state's appeal of the court's decision will be complete," Norton said.

She said the state's motion asks that Bayless expedite his ruling on the outstanding issues.

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## 'Falsettos' well-acted, but depressing and unspectacular

### ENTERTAINMENT

By JOHN REED

*Houston Voice Entertainment*

In an interview last week with the *Houston Voice*, songwriter William Finn said he wanted to make his audience "laugh and cry" with "Falsettos," the Broadway hit on which he collaborated with director James Lapine. The show itself, however, seemed to fall a little flat in the first category.

Opening on Broadway in April, 1992, "Falsettos" won Tony awards for composer William Finn and librettists Finn and James Lapine, along with nominations for the coveted Tony awards for several of the cast members. This last item is important because many of the original Broadway cast are present in the current Houston production.

Barbara Walsh is excellent as the wife and mother figure, Stephen Bogardus as the preppy Gay lover, Whizzer and Heather MacRae as the Lesbian physician, Dr. Charlotte In spite of the uniformly very good and

in specific instances, excellent acting, this musical is definitely a strong 'downer.' Having completed my Christmas card mailing list that is getting shorter with each year, I was hardly in the

mood to find a play with a central AIDS theme and forced ethnic humor to be funny. I needed fifty milligrams of Elavil after sitting through the two hour production. And I do not believe that my attitude was very different from many in the audience. My two companions felt similarly depressed, and I strongly suspect that there were few members of the up scale Jones Hall audience that by this '93 Holiday season have not lost an acquaintance from AIDS.

While part of the reaction may stem from my view that musical theater should be fun, up lifting and leave me

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SERIES

with a song in my heart, the fact remains that preferences aside, the key marks of a strong musical were lacking. Few of the melodies here are memorable or even recallable.

The costumes are 1980, Central Park West and not a focus of the production. The musicians are placed above the set in a blacked out booth allowing them to follow the stage action very accurately. The set is colored in red, black and white with a formal geometric design. Simple pieces of furniture are pushed about the stage as chairs, tables, and hospital bed are needed.

All of the dialogue is sung, in this case resembling 'Chorus Line.' The name of the musical, Falsettos, is taken from voices being sung or spoken outside of the normal range.

And in this production, the characters are living lives outside of the normal range, such as a husband/father leaving his attractive wife for a gay lover, a Jewish young man not wanting his bar mitzvah, and a psychologist marrying his patient while in therapy. The parts of Jason, skillfully played by Sivan Cotel, Barbara Walsh as the wife and mother in turmoil, and Whizzer handsomely acted by Stephen Bogardus (which gym does he belong to?), are special standouts. At least Jones Hall in the newly refurbished setting, the relative ease of parking, and the increased number of security personnel in the Houston theatrical district helped to make the evening enjoyable. The last performance of "Falsettos" was Dec. 26, so you have a year or two to store up a supply of Elavil, Prozac or Zolofit if your shortening Christmas card list does not encourage your Holiday entertainment funds to be spent on a replay of the eminently more uplifting "Nutcracker" or "Beauty and the Beast."

## Gay man wins libel lawsuit against Russian TV company

MOSCOW, Wednesday, Dec. 22 (AP)—A court awarded a gay man 500,000 rubles (\$ 400) in a libel lawsuit against Russia's main state-run television company, saying it had denigrated "his dignity and honor," a newspaper reported Wednesday.

Although Russian courts often handle libel cases, it was believed to be the first time a homosexual had sued a government agency and won. Until last May, homosexuality was a crime, and gays could face years in prison.

The court in Moscow's Dzerzhinsky district ordered Ostankino TV to pay the man, identified as Vladimir T., for airing a 1992 interview without his permission, *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* reported.

Vladimir T. told the court he gave the interview to a Western television company, Pilot Productions on a gay-only beach in a Moscow suburb on condition it never be shown in Russia or any other former Soviet republic.

An Ostankino representative said the company did not know about the arrangement with the Australian-Anglo-Hungarian company. He said Ostankino would appeal the court decision, which also obliges it to pay 75,000 rubles (\$ 60) in legal fees.

# CELEBRATE 1994

## Celebrate New Year's Eve atop the Wyndham Warwick at Houston's 1st Annual Gay and Lesbian Community New Year's Eve Party

Hosted By  
*The Assistance Fund, Bering Community Service Foundation  
& Houston Clinical Research Network*

The party is our way of saying "thanks" to the Gay and Lesbian Community for their gracious support. Enjoy panoramic views of Houston's spectacular skyline from the penthouse ballroom atop the Warwick.

Tickets are \$65 per person and include an open bar, hor'deuvres and a hearty breakfast buffet at 12:30 am. You may also purchase a table for ten for \$1,000 with an option to rent a suite for only \$50! A suite is a terrific place for the table host to entertain their guests before or after the party.

Dancing to the Hot Sounds of disc jockey J. Edward of Austin  
Fabulous entertainment by the comedy cabaret trio Les Miserable of Dallas

The festivities begin at 9:00 pm. Black-tie is optional. Regular guest rooms are also available.

Information: 529-6071, FAX 529-3626. VISA/MC welcome. 9:00 pm till 1:30 am.

# Our Crisco vanishes; Community New Year's events everywhere; Dernfilkes?

## HOUSTON SOAP

By TAD NELSON  
Houston Voice Publisher  
HELLO HOUSTON!

Well imagine my surprise when TRUCKER MOM popped down our chimney last Saturday morning around 3:00 a.m. How was I to know for sure that this new boy friend was the real Nick! Yeah, that's right St. Nicholas. Santa Baby. The Claus Man. The Jolly Elf. The Rotund Lunti Kleez and his horned dernfilkes (that's what the Martians call him and the reindeer he says).

Anyway. ...TRUCKER and I had just settled down for a long Winter's nap when what to my wondering eyes should have appeared but Trucker Mom, her date and eight tiny reindeer. It was a great thing they weren't just ten minutes earlier.

The trucker had just finished one of his better fantasies about how he was trained by the drivers up on HIGHWAY 69 right outside of INDIANA. There's supposed to be this great little rest area up there and it just so happens that our back yard is set up just that way. I always wondered what that shed in the back was supposed to represent. And when Trucker

Plan to see him back at RICH'S in February.

Speaking of back at a popular club in town...VERA, I hear the BRB is going to bring back Frozen Margaritas on special Saturday morning shifts. That is if you can remember where you hid the blender!

New Year's is upon us and BASIC BROTHERS as usual is on top of the season with Formal Wear, Tux Shirts, Bow Ties, Cumberbuns, Vest and jewelry to help you in the New Year in style. Happy New Year from RICHARD and the gang at Basic Brothers.

Our leather friends at the RIPCORD are having a LEATHER NEW YEAR'S PARTY with free party favors and champagne and a cash balloon drop at Midnight. If you happen to be at one of those Black Tie affairs earlier in the evening and don't know where to go to have fun when the party dies...the Ripcord is an appropriate place to wear black—don't you think? If you're tired of the cold at other establishments, wear your penguin suit to 715 Fairview and warm up with the hot leather



STALLION & MIKE on Christmas night at Gentry



NURSE JUDY & DR. CRAD enjoy a holiday party last weekend



Isn't that DAMITA JO candidate for Empress of RSCISS?

EVE BASH at 800 PACIFIC will continue until 4:00 a.m. at the MONTROSE MINING COMPANY'S AFTER HOURS PARTY. With dancers until 4:00 a.m. and no cover all night long Houston's men will celebrate the new year at the Mine.

Make plans to attend the New Years Eve Party at the CLUB HOUSTON. DAMION and the men of the club at 2205 Fannin are offering free party favors, free food and free beverages along with the usual erotic fun. You won't want to miss Club

Champagne but Door Prizes and Male Dancers as well. The place will start hopping from 8 pm New Years Eve to 8:00 a.m. New Years Day. Enjoy the heated indoor pool and video rooms with 3 video channels and 100's of movies. Bring in the New Year with a-MAZE-MEN-t at the Midtowne Spa.

RICH'S turns casino for New Year's Eve with VIVA LAS VEGAS. Enjoy gambling, showgirls, Las Vegas Male Strippers, great food and celebrities: CHER, BETTE MIDLER, DIVINE, REBA, and ELVIS are a few in the evenings line up!

Don't forget about Houston's Med-Center area bar. It's one of Houston's original hot spots! THE BRIAR PATCH. That's right, you could spend the evening this New Year's Eve with WAYNE and the men of the Briar Patch. Wayne promises thousands of balloons and a sea of streamers, party hats, noise makers, free champagne and LIVE entertainment.

Venture-N plans to have a New Year's Day "HANGOVER PARTY" with \$1.25 Bloody Mary's and each Sunday you can enjoy the new 10:00 a.m. SUNDAY BRUNCH with a full service bar available also at 10:00 a.m.

BRB is having a New Year's Day Buffet from 3 pm to 6 pm so go by and munch with the staff and management of the BRB, your Montrose country home.

On New Year's Day, GENTRY is having a special "HAIR OF THE DOG" LIQUOR AND LONG NECK BUST from 2 pm to 10:00 p.m. The clubs sexy BOY TOYS will strip and strut beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Beginning this Sunday the MINE'S BEER BUST on the

patio gets EVEN better. New in 1994 is \$1.00 buy in and they have extended it until 2:00 a.m. The patio will surely get hotter as the men enjoy Houston's biggest beer bust.

Tuesdays and Thursdays are 1/2 price room and locker nights at the CLUB HOUSTON. Have fun for 1/2 the money at the Club that brings you Nautilus, Free Weights, Tanning Beds, Dry Saunas, Steam Baths, Private Dressing Rooms, a Large Sundeck, Massage Therapy, Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi, Showers, and Video Rooms. Club Houston is your complete entertainment and physical fitness complex.

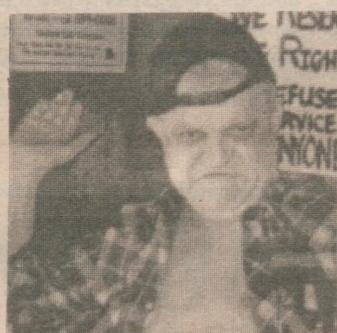
You'll always find one of the best crowds in town on Wednesday Nights at GENTRY!...as MISS GAY TEXAS, DYAN MICHAELS hosts the club's fabo Male Strip Contest at 10:30 p.m. Next week start your weekends at Gentry with friends and enjoy the clubs BOY TOY DANCERS starting at 6:00 p.m.

You know, I'm really freaked out about Santa and Mom in Jamaica. I hope we didn't encourage Mom to find a man and now she's hooked up with the wrong type. I think this Santa guy might be an impostor you know, because I listened to that message on the recorder again. Even through the static, I'm sure I heard her right and she said something about smoking a cannibal joint, somebody named JAMAICAN RED, in the jungle and having a wonderful time. Sounds like this Santa guy is torching native clubs in the forests of Jamaica to me. But what do I know?

Y'all have a great New Year and don't try anything the Trucker and I haven't done yet. DID YOU SEE MY SKYDIVING ARTICLE? I think that's next on the agenda. Make those resolutions to try something new and exciting this year. No Trucker, not you. ...you're stuck with Me! Bye for now!



Will the real VANNA WHITE roll your eyes



Who is this BRB bartender by Mary's jukebox?



ROBERT puts his best poinsettia forward!

bought the Peterbilt rig and drove it inside the fence and parked it... well, it just all seems to fit in place. But that's another story. And one you might have to catch in DRUMMER or TRUCKER QUARTERLY.

But SANTA and MOM didn't stay long. They had finished the toy run and just stopped by to eat some cookies and have a nip of brandy, VSOP of course—Mom's favorite. But while they were here a real mystery occurred. Our CRISCO disappeared along with our 25 SPF sun screen. I knew the fur on that old mans jacket and pants was a sign of some deeper kink!

We got a call on our answering machine this Monday morning from Mom saying she was in JAMAICA with Nicky enjoying the CANNIBALS? At least I think that's what she said. There was a lot of static on the line and she couldn't quit giggling. Hope Mom's okay. Santa promised to have her back by late January to begin her yearly visit.

Now on with Soap. ...

Last Thursday at HEDO...ZETTTE tore up the stage with his hit, "Never Be" sporting nothing but a small fur patch. His singing was hot!

action of the men of the Rip.

New Year's Eve check out the BRAZOS RIVER BOTTOM'S party "Country Style." Admission is \$8 per person or \$10 per couple which includes party favors, champagne at midnight and a breakfast buffet at 2:00 a.m.

The Holiday gifts from HEAVEN keep coming. In December they brought us LONNIE GORDON, ROBIN S. and HOT CHOCOLATE and for New Year's Eve they present New York City Decadence. With Go-Go Boys, Performance Artists, Club Kids and a split champagne to everyone between 11:30 and midnight. What a Heavenly place to spend this holiday season.

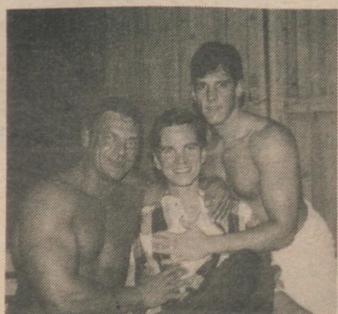
At J.R.'s on New Year's Eve there will be no cover...as always and a traditional champagne toast at midnight. This promises to be Houston's biggest party with a balloon drop at Midnight, more party favors than Zsa Zsa could wear, and a countdown of 1993's top ten video's begins at 11:00 p.m.

And the NEW YEAR'S

Houston's BLOWout of the year! For more information call 659-4998.

THEATER LaB HOUSTON is offering a special performance of "BOUNCERS" a comedy about disco knights! directed by RON JONES. Doors open at 8:30 pm and the performance begins at 9:15 pm with champagne and desserts at midnight. Seating is limited and the cost is \$25 per person.

There's going to be a hot New Years Party at the MIDTOWNE SPA this year. This year will include not only Food and



DAMION of Club Houston is surrounded by MOUNT-N-MEN



Hey FRED! Good to see you in town



Here's a scary Christmas group!

## Exciting New Year's parties all over San Antonio



Newly crowned Miss Gloria Whole

### San Antonio Soap

By LEFTY TAYLOR

Houston Voice/San Antonio

Happy New Year! Time sure flies by when you're having fun. It sure is hard to believe that another year has passed us by. My mother used to tell me that the older you get, the faster they go and now I believe her. The Christmas spirit has finally caught up with me, almost too late. The lottery fairies graced me with a winner and that helped take the stress off all those bills. I would like to thank all those people who came out during this last week to help our various organizations. The fashion show at the Wild Club raised over \$800 for SAAF. The dragathon shows at the Silver Dollar and the Wild Country raised almost \$3000 combined. That took a lot of effort and holiday spirit on your part and I'm proud of you.

For the New Year, we have some exciting parties all over town. For the first time I can welcome the Industria bar to the ad pages of Houston Voice. Industria is the newest bar in San Antonio and one of the classiest you will see

anywhere. These guys put in a lot of work and it shows. Ever since they've opened, I've heard more rumors than I have ever thought to hear. I can tell you that it is open and the place is doing great and despite how any one feels, no, Tim hasn't made a pass at me. Industria opens at 4:00 p.m. on New Years Eve. The party will include appetizers, party favors and champagne at midnight. The

upstairs will also be open on New Years and you can be treated to almost done look.

Also downtown is the El Jardin, where Bambi says come down and you bet you won't be blinded. She can also tell you about all the theft that has been going on at Rivercenter Mall. We've all wondered where those cherubs were getting off to. The El Jardin New Year's Eve parties are always packed. They have the best drink prices in town. On New Years Day, when your eyes are the color of tomatoes, you can match them at the El Jardin with a dollar bloodies (and screws) until 3:00 p.m. At 2:00 p.m. starts the annual New Years day buffet with black eye peas and collard greens and all sorts of great food. You can come down and enjoy an inexpensive drink and a free meal with all your friends. Hopefully by this time Billy will be back from his sabbatical.

New Years Eve it's Shady Lady and Muscles in Action at the Papermoon. There will be champagne and dancers and cash prizes awarded. The staff and management would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and they would like

for you to join them to help ring in the New Year. At the Silver Dollar, they will be giving away video tapes, cd's, cassettes, posters and more all night long. The Silver Dollar would like to thank every one for keeping them the number one bar in town and to bless you with another great year.

The New Year will also bring in Miriam's. Its the new bar opening up at the old Country Club location. There will be lots of new drink specials with your old favorites from Memories. Now I will sadly say that Memories will e closing the 29th and will be no more, but you can have all the same things and more at Miriam's.

The party never stops at the 2015. New Years party will start at opening and will go on until everyone drops. There will be champagne, party favors and good looking hunks to help make the New Year better. The 2015 also boast the largest Christmas tree in town and it won't blind you.

The bets of all New Years parties will be at Nexus. There will be champagne, party favors and a balloon drop at Midnight. The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. on New Years Eve just in case any of you want to start your partying early.

For something a little bit different, the Wild Club will be hosting the Wildest Masquerade Ball ever on the wildest corner in town. Bubbly and bodies will be served at midnight. The holiday spirits grabbed hold of some of the employees after the party last Monday and wrung them dry. I've never felt such live in the air as that day. Also, I would like to express Holiday

Greetings and Best Wishes from the staff at the Wild Country. They want you to remember that on Sunday, the afternoon party will not be canceled. You can listen to your favorite music, eat hot dogs, watch the flying weenies (dick dancers) and drink .25 cent draft all day. Brenda K. Stallone has come out again. I wouldn't want to meet this girl in a dark alley, maybe a dark bedroom, with out a stick. Now matter what, I say good for you girl. Hit her next time, we'll sell t-shirts that say "I punched the lights out of. . . ." and we all know who she is.

Ken Bradshaw would like to thank everyone for making this year such a big success. They've opened a third Value Housing in San Antonio to better serve you and now you know there are people out there to help you if you want to buy your own home. Glad to hear your feeling better, Ken. Keep up the good work.

Now I can look back and be grateful for many things. I'm grateful that I got to meet so many new and wonderful people this last year such as Bre-

nda K. Starr, Victoria West, Aaron Davis, Brian, Victor, Lonnie, Joey, Harry, Rusty and all the rest of the staff at the Wild Country and Club. I'm grateful for all the people I've know for so long and they still like me such as Derek (SAAF), Billy, Sam, Leo and Jose, Bambi and Malibu, Kraven and Maxee and Blaire.

I'm thankful that we have people like Tommie and Bean, who with a host of friends turned their birthday party into donations only parties for San Antonio AIDS Foundation's food bank.

I'm grateful to all the people around San Antonio, including bar owners and staff for helping make my shaky beginning with The New Voice so smooth and I am also grateful for the paper as it is one of the few things I enjoy doing.

Those are a few things I am grateful for. The list goes on for a long time, but most of all, I am grateful just to be here. Thank you all for the best gossip and the dirt, thank you for the parties and the invitations, thank you for the tips and the kind smiles. I'll see you all in the New Year. Chow!



Maxee, Sassy and Blaire at El Jardin

## Jan. 11 deadline for Ryan White proposals; scuba group forming

### Quick Notes

The Houston Area HIV Services (Ryan White) Planning Council has announced a Request for Proposals for HIV/AIDS Services for the next fiscal cycle. At this time, the Council is accepting proposals to be funded for 1994 Ryan White Title I funds which total \$13,242,930. (A separate RFP packet will be available for entities wishing to apply for the HIV/CMS Coordinating Team). The awards will be for a 12 month contract period beginning no earlier than March 1, 1994.

Application packets may be picked up at the following location: Harris County Purchasing Department, 1001 Preston, Suite 670 (sixth floor), Houston, TX 77002. The packets include detailed information on the service categories for which proposals will be accepted.

Completed, sealed proposals must be received at the Harris County Purchasing Office no later than 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 11, 1994. (Those submitting proposals are strongly urged to arrive at least an hour early to facilitate the proposal being logged in).

Persons with questions concerning the request for proposals are asked to call Sue Cooper or Connie Merhley of the Harris County HIV Services Division at (713) 840-7384.



GENEROUS DONATION—Wigs on Fire recently presented \$6,500 from its successful October fundraiser to the Colt 45's. Shown accepting check from W.O.F. member Mark are Cal Moran and Colt members Jackie, left, and Todd

### Diving group

Underwater, there are potential adven-

tures lurking within even the tiniest nook and cranny on every reef. For those who are intrigued with the idea of diving

but have yet to fully immerse themselves, a newly forming sports organization is providing the opportunity.

John R. Grisak, who also founded the Gay & Lesbian Skydiving Team (see feature story in this issue) is coordinating the new scuba club, which is scheduling and private instruction for new divers as well as group meetings. Certification for Open Water Dives is \$135. For more information, contact John Grisak at (713) 488-5576 (day) or (713) 334-4813 (evening).

### GLHU benefit

Gay and Lesbian Hispanics Unidos (GLHU) will hold a fundraiser at Inergy to raise money for next year's Mr. and Ms. Baile Pageant.

The event, "GLHU Proudly Presents Our Texas Revue" will feature special guests Dyan Michaels (Miss Texas America); Black Velvet (Miss Jefferson County); Jaquelyn Sterling (Miss Latina Texas), Rochelle Ramon (Miss Lazy J) and Mr. and Ms. Baile 1993, Thomas Rodriguez and Della Ross. Show time is 10:30 p.m.; admission is \$3. Inergy Nite Club is located at 6121 Hillcroft. For more information: (713) 771-9611.

# Christmas parties got Valley warmed up-now on to New Year!

## RIO GRANDE VALLEY SOAP

By ALICIA LUGO

*The Houston Voice/Rio Grande Valley*

Way to go Santa Claus!! I must have been a very good girl this past year because old Saint Nick stopped by and jingled my bells this Christmas. Granted I didn't get the white Christmas I had wished for last week, I'm not complaining. Not only did I get a bunch of neat gifts, more importantly, I had the good fortune to spend it with family and friends. I hope that everyone had a great a Christmas as I.

It wasn't difficult to get into the Christmas spirit with all the partying going on across the Valley these last couple of weeks. The Planet celebrated with a special Christmas Party last Tuesday night and kept on the celebration with a fantastic Christmas Eve show featuring the talents of Kristian Kline and the beautiful and talented Kelly Kline who was in the Valley for a



Jasmine in action

special holiday engagement.

Just Tery's also had a special show on Christmas Eve with the fantastic Jaqui Fabiane, Velma, and Miss Gay Pride of the RGV, Lady Laura. Over at 10th Avenue, Apollo enthralled the guys as he strutted his stuff with one breathtaking performance, too.

But the big news is of course, what's happening for New Year's? Every nightclub in the Valley is planning a special New Year's party this week, so let me fill you in on a few of the details.

P.B.D.'s and Zippers are both getting into gear with all the plans for some truly spectacular New Year's parties. They will have bubbly, and party favors for all their party people this Friday night. Zippers will have male dancers as well.

Chuck at P.B.D.'s and Max at Zippers have both asked me to thank everyone for their patronage during the year and have also asked me to invite everyone out for a fun filled evening this New Year's.

10th Avenue is also planning one of their biggest New Year's parties ever. They will also have lots of complimentary bubbly and party favors. Misty, Isaac, and all the management invite you to ring in the New Year with a bang at 10th.

Also mark you calendars for next week, Jan. 7th, when 10th will be welcoming the fantastic talents of Tommy ross.

Just Tery's will open up their doors the Friday for their New Year's Bash. There will be a \$10.00 cover charge, but that includes bubbly, party favors and a special Mexican Breakfast Buf-

fet that will be served starting at 1:00 a.m.

It's not to late to make your reservations for tables and chairs. Just call Tery at (210)682-CHER for more information.

The Valley's newest nightspot, The Planet in Harlingen is planning to make their first New Year's celebration a memorable experience for all. Plaz Productions and The Planet will be presenting a holiday spectacular "A Brand New Day" starring the lovely and talented Velma Saints and Chanel. There will also be party favors, a champagne toast at midnight along with a giant balloon drop. Tickets are available at the door.

I'm sure noticed last week that The New Voice is now The Houston Voice. I had quite a few people stop me at the clubs and ask me if this meant that the Valley would no longer be a part of the new paper. Well as you can see we're still here for now. All we need is for you to ask your local bars and businesses to keep advertising. We don't want to lose one of the very few sources we have of getting all the news of everything going on in the gay community, both here and across Texas.

As this year draws to a close and we get ready to welcome the New Year,, should take a minute to reminisce over all that we have done and experienced in 1993. For many 1993 was a time of good fortune and personal growth and accomplishment, and for this we should give thanks.

For others 1993 was a time of sadness as so many lost loved ones and friends to the tragic disease that has plagued us for too long now. Let's remember all



Jasmine, Miss Magic Valley

of them and the good times that we shared with them. Let us all say a prayer that with the coming year there will finally be a cure.

The New Year is also a time of new beginnings, a time to make resolutions and this year finally keep them. Let us all resolve to do a little more for our fellow man and bridge the gap between ourselves and those who persecute us for our lifestyles.

So what d'ya say Valley? Let's make 1994 the best year ever!

Let me hear from you. Send me your New Year's Resolutions and I'll be sure and include them in this column. Send your mail to The Houston Voice, P.O.Box 3027, Harlingen, TX 78550.

Valley Voice will meet this Tuesday night at 8:30 p.m. at Creasey's Bowl in Harlingen. See you there!



Join SHADY LADY & MUSCLES IN ACTION  
As They and the Staff and Management Wish You

**A Very HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Join Us!

**DANCERS • CHAMPAGNE • \$\$ CASH PRIZE @ MIDNITE**

**SILVER DOLLAR** The Staff and Management Wish  
**S \* A \* L \* O \* O \* N \* R**  
You A Great

**NEW YEAR in '94**

Celebrate With Us As We Give Away Video Tapes  
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**THANK YOU FOR A GREAT YEAR!**

# But is it art? Annie Sprinkle aims to demystify sex

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

*Houston Voice Editor*

The way she tells it, awkward, shy teen Ellen Steinburg evolved into massage house prostitute, porn film star and later, performance artist, Annie Sprinkle in a burst of anti-repressive revelation at the age of 18, when she started having sex. Since then, she says, sex has been her hobby, her art, and the core of her politics and spirituality.

Recently, Sprinkle, now nearing 40, has evolved again, into "Anya," spiritually grounded sex educator and researcher, and "woman-focused" feminist.

"I just felt this new personality emerging within me," said the self-created free spirit in a recent interview. "I think Annie is still the businessperson, Anya is more the priestess or goddess. I think most of us have many personalities...don't you think that's true?" she chirps in a smooth, voice that oddly is both sexy and academically stilted, with more than a hint of Steinberg's Jewish roots.

"Anya is older—I'm 39 now, almost 40—and is more spiritual and I think, political, more feminist and woman focused. I'm doing things for women, educating women now."

Sprinkle, who in her sex industry past appeared in every major sex magazine and over 200 X-rated films, says she prefers sex with women. But she avoids labeling herself as either lesbian or bisexual, noting that she has had lovers of both sexes, including many who are either male-to-female or female-to-male transsexuals.

Her controversy-provoking credentials include founding Pornographers Promoting Safer Sex and sitting on the steering committees of Union Labia: Sex Positive Feminists and PONY (Prostitutes of New York). Sprinkle has written and produced numerous videos, including the "Sluts and Goddesses Video Workshop, or How to be a Sex Goddess in 101 Easy Steps."

She exudes a seemingly genuine naivete when reminded that many feminists view pornography, and especially, the sex industry, as exploitation of women. "How do you know? Have you asked them?"

What to believe of Sprinkle's assessments of



Controversial performance artist Annie Sprinkle makes her Houston debut Jan. 14-16

her spiritual life and sex life, like the stated gender of her lovers and her sexual orientation, may remain a blur. Her background, however, is well documented through the industry she says she left because of its unsafe sex practices.

In any case, Houston's DiverseWorks alternative art space has chosen a fireball to kick off its winter "All the Rage: Solo Women's Voices Series" next weekend. Sprinkle, in her Houston debut, will present "Post-Post Porn Modernist," a one woman autobiographical show that updates her earlier book, whose title had only one "Post." The show, according to DiverseWorks, "celebrates sex, deconstructs pornography, and encourages people to use their sexuality for personal transformation, physical and emotional healing and spiritual growth."

"I'm almost afraid of going to Houston," she joked. "You know, y'all have a national reputation as being kind, well, conservative."

"No, I'm looking forward to it, really. I haven't been there before, so it will be exotic—sort of like being in another country."

The Houston performances will include a woman-only show on Sunday, Jan. 16. Sprinkle, who says she turned to performance art eight years ago as a forum for self-expression and sex education, has been doing sporadic shows for exclusively female audiences for about three years. The shows, usually heavily attended by lesbians, often provoke discussion...but also draw standing ovations.

"I think there's a little confusion about people in the sex field, in any way...people have these pre-conceived ideas about prostitutes, porn artists, and its sort of like having pre-conceived ideas about Black people or Jewish people. Most of the people who are saying these things have never met or talked with a prostitute."

"There are a lot of problems, of course, with sexuality—there's rape, there's abuse, there's disease. But our attitude is extremely immature and confused when it comes to sex. People think is stop or repress your sexuality, the problems will go away. But instead, (abstinence) just leads people to frustration and depression."

Sprinkle says she sees her primary role as that of educator, rather than performer. "I express everything I learn, and teach it to others. I document my experiences through performance, and books, and I learn more by doing these things." Her latest project is a video documentary on orgasm, for which she says she has "already filmed about 35 people" in the act. The video will also include interviews with scientists and sex researchers, Sprinkle said.

Those attending the Houston performance are invited to bring their cameras to document such moments as Sprinkle's "Bosom Ballet" and "Public Cervix Announcement." Performances are Friday and Saturday, Jan. 14 and 15 at 8:00 p.m.; For Women Only, Sunday, Jan. 16, 8:00 p.m. (All performances are adults only, 18 years or older).

The Solo Women's Series continues through April at DiverseWorks. Other featured artists include Ruby Nelda Perez, Joyce Scott, Rachel Rosenthal and Holly Hughes.

## Police called when angry Florida seniors protest gay play

CORAL SPRINGS, Fla., Monday, Dec. 20 (AP)—Police were called to a theater when shouting seniors interrupted a musical portraying homosexual romances.

The play "Personals" performed at the Majestic Glades Theater apparently surprised older members of the audience, said production manager Debra Lynch.

There were 125 people in the audience Sunday, most of whom had paid \$15 a ticket.

Lynch said people began walking out after the first scene and then came back into the theater and yelled at the actors, stopping the performance at one point.

"They were yelling things like 'We

didn't pay to see lesbians and homosexuals,' and 'How dare you bring lesbians into daylight?'" Lynch said.

The musical is a comedy about people who get into unexpected romantic entanglements after responding to personal ads. Lynch said audience members began leaving when one of the actors read a classified ad for a "bisexual male transvestite dwarf."

Some returned and disrupted the play. Kathleen Planco, 15, who ran the lights and sound, said a woman attacked her, digging her fingernails in Planco's face.

Two Coral Springs police officers quieted the audience so the show could continue. Police said no one was arrested. Lynch and her husband, Jay Lynch,

the theater's artistic director, both performed in the play. She said Sunday's performance was the first time there had ever been a problem.

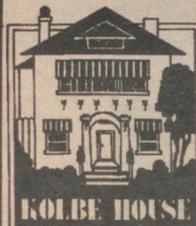
"The funny thing is, we did this in the same theater last year for six weeks and it was sold out," Lynch said.



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# Lesson from 1993: 'Politically Correct' label isn't

## Out Spoken

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

If the politics of 1993 revealed anything at all, it may be that the fairly new but already tired label "politically correct" is in fact a clever misnomer. The correcting and perhaps, reconstructing of our once visionary, progressive and in many respects, politically naive President at the whims of the Washington self-preservation machine is a stunning example.

"Politically correct," a term which made it into the 1994 editions of the most respected American dictionaries, is a label usually used to assail social liberals' attempts to be politically inclusive, culturally

sensitive, and supportive of human rights issues. In the context of American politics, people who hold these views have never yet comprised the majority and in the eyes of those who continue to hold the true political power, are anything but "correct." The Right Wing, in this case, has succeeded in foisting on that majority, and even the moderates within the very minority cultures whose right are supposedly a laughable concept, a slur that turns human values and basic morality into a trademark of the opposite.

I read recently in one of the daily papers an editorial by a man who felt the observance of "World AIDS Day" gave an unnecessary edge in the public's consciousness to what he called "the politically cor-

rect disease." The writer wondered why there was not a world cancer or leukemia awareness day, and concluded that it was because these ailments were not considered "politically correct." However, what this writer failed to recognize (or chose to ignore) was the plodding years of stigma-related ignorance and inaction that preceded the grudging recognition now paid to AIDS one day a year. The hysteria and the old and new myths live on, unlike the friends and loved ones of those who would take advantage of any gimmick to attract the attention of those who perpetuate them. It is this imbalance and the desperation and frustration of those who are outside of the actual "correct" (by its own standards) political circle that

gives rise to any effort to raise the public's awareness to stigmatized issues, from which most would rather turn away.

Locally and in other parts of Texas, 1993 saw a quiet resurgence of the power of the Radical Right. Their forces split the Harris County Republican Party, slammed down a stack of progressive judicial candidates and nearly stealthed an anti-gay psychopath onto the Houston City Council.

In Austin, in the shadow of the passage of a progressive anti-discrimination ordinance for city employees, the battles over removing discrimination are far from over. A group called Concerned Texans is organizing to repeal the city ordinance, passed by the Austin City Council in October. It

was this group's movement that influenced the recent vote by Williamson County Commissioners to deny tax breaks to Apple Computer, later reversed under media scrutiny and political pressure.

People for the American Way, the national constitutional liberties watchdog group that in November produced "Hostile Climate: A State-by-State Report on Anti-Gay Activity," this week released new report, an as yet untitled year-end survey on right wing political activity of 1993. The 60-plus page document details a disturbing number of Radical Right successes at the grassroots level. (To get a copy of either report, call (202) 467-4999. Knowledge is our most effective weapon as we head into another year.

# Idaho Senator clarifies position on anti-gay measure

DECLO, Idaho, Friday, Dec. 24 (AP)—State Sen. Denton Darrington, R-Declo, has clarified his stand on the anti-gay rights initiative sponsored by the Idaho Citizens Alliance.

A survey by the Post Register in Idaho Falls placed Darrington,

chairperson of the Senate Judiciary and Rules Committee, with eight other legislators who said they supported the initiative.

But Darrington said Thursday that he had misunderstood the question, and has not endorsed the initiative or either of two leg-

islative bills addressing rights for homosexuals.

"I have not and will not sign the petition for this initiative," he said. "And I will not support this bill in the Legislature. I will take no role in this controversy whatsoever."

State Sen. Stan Hawkins, R-Ucon, and state Rep. Alan Lance, R-Meridian, have said they will introduce bills next year that would be similar to parts of the Idaho Citizens Alliance initiative proposed for the Nov. 1994 ballot.

"This bill has zero priority in the Legislature," Darrington said. "I will not get involved in it. End of comment."

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## CCMCC and Coastal Bend host benefit for children's hospital



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"Were you a good boy this year?" asks DJ Scotty G

### CORPUS CHRISTI SOAP

By SUZETTE LOCKE

Houston Voice/Corpus Christi

"No, we will not accept your donations...because you are a Gay organization." This was the response given to Zondra Lucas of Desert Hearts. Who, during the Christmas season, would not be "grateful" for thousands in donations, much less, not "accept" a community service during these hard times...? The Salvation Army! The holiday bell ringers posted at every entrance door for shoppers to donate, declined a fundraiser and Toys for Tots benefit in their honor because Desert Hearts is "A Gay Bar"! So, this year the ladies and gentlemen of the Coastal Bend Gay Organizations and the Christ's Temple Metropolitan Community Church raised hundreds of dollars and hundreds of toys for another organization, one that was more concerned about the people they were helping, than sexual orientation.

The Driscoll Children's Hospital received many donations given by our community. DJ Scotty G., Susan, Mr. Splash Day!, Donna; Ms. Entertainer of the Year, Tanya; Empress I, ChiChi; Empress VII, Kay Y. Halsey; Emperor VII, Aaron Deal; Ms. Splash Day, Terry; Regina Taylor, Empress V; Ginger Foster, Empress VI; Rachel Greenwood, Jose, Lydia and the Desert Hearts gang: Zondra, Charlotte, Rita, Susan, Donna and Joy gave their hearts and souls to the Children of the Coastal Bend in the spirit of Christmas. One of the best shows of the year! Mmmm! If you missed this one, let's just say... "Rita, Charlotte, and Mr. Splash Day, you got them legs goin' on!"

This exciting evening was dedicated to Bill Cross, rest in peace gentle soul.

Last blowout show the ladies put on, was put together by Darlene. She knocked herself out to put on a hell-u-va show and did not get hers...Salute! Sorry girl, all my apologies please!

Back to the M.C.C.: Just a moment to let everyone in on a little known fact. This year the M.C.C. not only gave to Driscoll Children's Hospital, but directly to their community. Many food baskets

were distributed, bags of clothes were given to members and non-members to help the warmth. Many "families" anticipating a difficult season were eased. A very personal "Thank You" from this adopted family and her homeless "children"!

This New Year's Eve, the ladies are throwing a bash with the works! Champagne, party favors and thou! No cover! As tradition calls for the Kiss at midnight can be taken care of at Desert Hearts. Come on, they'll be waiting! Don't forget, Dena Kaye on Jan. 13th. Don't miss it! It's always too long before she comes back.

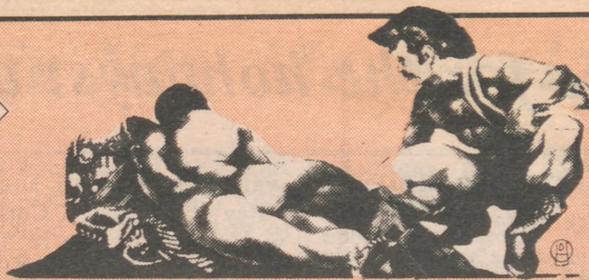
Hidden Door news: Welcome! Welcome! 1994! Ring in the New Year with the boys and girls of Hidden Door. Father Time and the New Year's Baby will have party favors and champagne for your enjoyment! Happy birthday January babies: Butch, Scott M., David M., Alfred R., and the beautiful Liz! Just a quick reminder, No Steak Night for the winter. Sorry, gotta cook your own meat. See how they are! But, pool tournaments are still going strong on Tuesday nights at 9:00 p.m. So bring your stick, they are waiting for you.

Last bowling news for 1993. First place: Fat Boys, 2nd place: STC Officers, 3rd place: Officer and a Gentleman, 4th place: Pin Heads, and 5th place, but never last, Lane Scorchers! Of course Amador had high scratch game (194) but, Scott took the series with (513). The new season starts Jan. 3rd at 8:00 p.m. Riviera Lanes...See ya' there, next year!

May 1994 be even better than 1993! Have a great New Year!



The Desert Hearts gang



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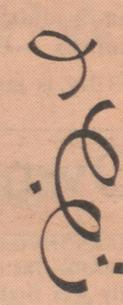


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## Home for the holidays: divergent views of family tradition

By **SHERI COHEN DARBONNE**  
*Houston Voice Editor*

Stacy, who says she's 21 but looks much younger, admits she would have liked to spend the holidays with her family. But, though she says her parents are learning to accept her, for most of her other relatives, Stacy's sexual orientation—which she is only grudgingly starting to accept herself—has pushed her outside of the circle.

Until a year ago, Stacy lived with an aunt, with whom she says she felt very close. But when the aunt discovered her niece was involved in a lesbian relationship, Stacy was thrown out into the street. Though she has managed on her own, this year, the holiday season will be even more difficult to get through, she said. Since she has also broken up with her lover, there is no one to connect with in the sharing spirit that people have assigned to the season.

"I really wish my whole family could just accept me for who I am," says the cherub-faced young woman with downcast eyes.

Johnny wasn't sure what he'd be doing over the holidays. Though he's patched things up with his mother, and she is inching toward understanding him, most of the rest of his family has also rejected him. But Johnny also is working through a broken relationship, and he said his brother, who still lives with his parents, wanted him to spend Christmas with them. His brother is also gay. That is also a touchy situation, said Johnny, who said he was blamed by his father for "turning" his younger brother "that way." When they first learned of his sexual orientation, Johnny says his family didn't speak to him for two months.

Billy is more philosophical, in a

walled-in, cynical sort of way. "Hey, Christmas is Christmas anyway, whether you're home or by yourself by the dumpster. I don't have (family memories) because I never really had a family."

The young people gathered in the Houston Institute for the Protection of Youth's outreach center at Montrose and Westheimer are far from typical gay and lesbian youth. Because HIPY serves adolescents and young adults with HIV or those at highest risk of acquiring it, many of the agency's clients are "street kids," drug abusers, runaways or "throwaways"—teens kicked out of their homes by their parents, often because they are gay.

However, feelings of alienation and anxiety around the Christmas/New Year holidays, traditional times of family celebration, are common among lesbians and gay men, who often have strained relationships with at least some members of their family. And, because of societal conditioning and exposure to homophobic ideology, many younger gay men and women lack the self-esteem and encouragement to build or maintain their own personal traditions and celebrations with lovers or friends.

For two years, HIPY has held its own alternative holiday gathering on Christmas Eve. The event is usually better attended than it would seem by surveying drop-ins to the agency's center beforehand, about 30 or so youths who find, or admit to themselves, that they have no place to go.

The Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (HATCH), a social, educational and support organization for gay and lesbian young people ages 15-24, usually holds a gathering shortly after Christmas, when members share stories about their experiences.

Many of this group's members still live at home; often, they are forced to spend a punishing "holiday" with family members who do not accept or understand them. This year, the meeting was held last Sunday, Dec. 26.

### Family values

While local organizations struggle to develop supportive networks for gay and lesbian youth, a determined Houston mother is doggedly working another angle.

"What we really need is to better educate the heterosexual people," says Jean Lobingier, a member of the Houston chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. "After all, they're the ones who need it."

Lobingier focuses on promoting a healthy attitude in parents toward their gay and lesbian children through special programs at her church and by speaking to local civic or social groups, as well as with P-Flag. "Every time I have an opportunity to do that kind of thing, I do," she said. Her personal stake in this commitment is her love for the women she considers her "two daughters": her natural daughter, Sydney, a writer who lives in Silver Springs, Md. (near Washington, D.C.), and Sydney's partner, Catherine.

A devout Presbyterian, Lobingier says she learned of her daughter's sexual orientation during a conversation with her about a newspaper article. "I had read about a church somewhere, in one of the (mainline) denominations, where there was a controversy over two gay men who joined the church. Most of the congregation had quit because the ministers allowed these men to be accepted as members," she said.

"It triggered my thinking, and I don't think it was just by chance. I brought up the article to Sydney, and apparently she had been trying to figure when would be the right time to tell me. She said, 'Mother, did you know that I was gay?'"

"In the 70's, I didn't know much about homosexuality. I think most heterosexual people are in that situation.

"But in our family, we always had an emphasis on being open and honest. That's what bothered me, that my daughter felt she had to hid something from me."

For years, Lobingier says she and her daughter always spent the Christmas holidays together. The tradition continued after Catherine and Sydney became a couple, and an extended family of friends developed around the seasonal observance at the couple's Washington home. Bob and Mike—"the boys," she calls them—a long term, gay male couple who lived in Alexandria, Va., became a part of that family and, says Lobingier, of hers.

When Lobingier remarried and moved to Houston, the Christmas trips became less feasible. But Catherine and Sydney did spend Thanksgiving weekend here, and Lobingier notes that she still sends gifts to her "boys" each year.

"The Christian Right talks about 'family values,' but in many ways, they are actually doing everything they can to destroy those very values. I feel that those of us who are Christian and don't feel that way have a responsibility to speak up."

(Resources for Gay and Lesbian youth and young adults: HIPY, (713) 942-9884; HATCH, (713) 942-7002. Resource for parents/family of Gay men and Lesbians: P-FLAG Houston, (713) 867-9020.)

## Owner of North Carolina gay bar stabbed: Marine charged

JACKSONVILLE, N.C., Wednesday, Dec. 22 (AP)—The owner of a gay bar that allegedly was firebombed during the gays-in-the-military debate earlier this year is recovering from stab wounds.

Police said Danny Leonard, who runs the Friends Lounge, was stabbed twice in the back and twice in the face early Wednesday

by Pfc. Raul Fernandez, a Marine based at the nearby New River Air Station.

Fernandez was charged with attempted murder. Marine officials told WLAS that Fernandez could face administrative charges after the civilian legal process has run its course.

Police told WCTI-TV that the two men allegedly were having sex at the bar when the stabbing occurred.

The motive is unclear. But police said Fernandez told them he lost control of himself after Leonard asked him to sniff a vile of liquid. Police are analyzing the substance.

Leonard occupied the national spotlight in March after his bar allegedly was firebombed. The bar is located near the Camp Lejeune Marine base.

Leonard has said his house also was firebombed recently.

Police have not solved either case.

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## Investigator doubts gay motive in New Mexico slaying

ALBUQUERQUE, Friday, Dec. 24 (AP)—The shooting death of an Albuquerque teen-ager may have resulted from a practical joke gone awry, says a state police investigator.

Agent Michael Davies, who headed the investigation into Adam Price's slaying, said he doubts there was a gay-related motive in the killing of the 17-year-old last month.

Three people, including a husband and wife, were arrested Tuesday and charged with an open count of murder in Price's death.

"They say they were looking for someone to scare that night," Davies said Thursday.

Price's body was found Nov. 24, 1992, by state Game and Fish Department officials just south of U.S. 60 in Bernardo, N.M.

Mark Apodaca, 20, of Albuquerque, Eric Smith, 22, and his wife, Darcy Smith, 18, both of Belen, were arraigned Thursday on an open count of murder in magistrate court in Socorro. They were being held Friday in the Socorro County Detention Center on \$500,000 bond each.

Price met Apodaca and the Smiths on Nov. 23, 1992, while they were driving around the University of New Mexico area, said a criminal complaint filed in Metropolitan Court.

An informant told state police investigators that Eric Smith "professed to hate homosexuals" and that Price was singled out because he appeared effeminate, records show.

But Davies said he believes Price and Eric Smith got into an argument that escalated and led to the shooting.

Autopsy results show Price was shot several times in the head and body with a shotgun and a handgun, some at pointblank range, the complaint said.

He was killed on his birthday.

Reports that the slaying may have been gay-motivated outraged Price's friends.

"It is unbelievable that this kind of bigotry and hatred is still going on out there," said Billy Garberina, who added Price was not gay.

## Judge confirms airman's dismissal over homosexual acts

DAYTON, Ohio, Friday, Dec. 24 (AP)—A federal magistrate has upheld the discharge of a former Wright-Patterson Air Force Base airman who engaged in homosexual activity.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Michael R. Merz on Thursday said that although a recently revised military policy protects homosex-

ual orientation, it does not protect engaging in homosexual acts.

Merz's recommendation goes to U.S. District Judge Walter H. Rice. It was made in the case of former Sgt. Claude E. Secora, who has fought for 15 years to be reinstated.

Secora was honorably discharged in

1978. He said he ended up in a homosexual relationship and a homosexual marriage in 1977 while on a four-month drinking binge. He has been married to a woman since his discharge.

Merz ruled on Sept. 30, 1992, that the Air Force had not acted arbitrarily in discharging Secora. Rice sent that ruling

back to Merz for consideration.

Before Merz could prepare a supplemental report, the government delayed all proceedings pending the outcome of President Clinton's review of federal policy toward homosexuals in the military. That review resulted in the current "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

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## Judge upholds Oregon town's anti-gay rights ordinance

MEDFORD, Ore., Wednesday, Dec. 22 (AP)—A judge Wednesday upheld Medford's anti-gay rights initiative, ruling that a state law passed to invalidate local actions that discriminate against homosexuals is not valid because it is too broad.

Jackson Circuit Judge L.A. Merryman also ruled that the initiative sponsored by the Oregon Citizens Alliance did not violate the state or federal constitutions.

"Halleluiaah," said Lon Mabon, leader of the Oregon Citizens Alliance, which sponsored the anti-gay rights initiative. "Finally, an honest judge."

Attorney Phil Arnold, who challenged the initiative for the American Civil Liberties Union, said he was flabbergasted. The city of Medford hadn't defended the initiative, but the judge ruled in its favor anyway.

"Unless the city can persuade the judge to undo this, there is no alternative but to go to the Court of Appeals," Arnold said.

Medford voters last September voted in favor of an initiative to amend the Medford City Charter to prohibit the city from giving preferential treatment for anyone based on their homosexuality.

Reacting to a series of similar measures passed around the state, the Legislature enacted House Bill 3500, which prohibited local governments from actions that discriminated on people based on their sexual preferences.

A similar amendment to the Jackson County Charter was struck down last week by a different judge in Jackson County Circuit Court, who upheld House Bill 3500, but didn't rule on the constitutionality of the anti-gay initiative.

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# Duke receives grant for AIDS vaccine research

DURHAM, Tuesday, Dec. 21 (AP)—Federal health officials have awarded a \$2.2 million grant to Duke University Medical Center researchers to develop an AIDS vaccine made from four strains of the virus.

The money represents one of the largest federal grants Duke has received for AIDS research. Duke scientists said they hope the money will help them take a promising experimental vaccine and develop it into an organic shield to protect humans against the deadly AIDS virus.

The Duke prototype vaccine is made from different strains of HIV, the human immunodeficiency virus, researchers said.

Other AIDS vaccines under development are based on only one strain, said Alan Schultz, chief of the vaccine branch at the NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

"We made this award to Duke University because researchers there have developed a unique strategy of combining pieces of four different HIV strains with molecules that will directly stimulate the immune system," Schultz said. "No one else has taken this promising approach."

The four-year NIH grant, awarded Dec. 15, also establishes Duke as one of eight federally funded AIDS vaccine

research centers.

For Barton Haynes, a Duke immunology expert who led the vaccine's development, the grant means having the resources to complete work on a project in which Duke scientists have invested eight years.

"The grant is to fund the basic research to further perfect this prototype vaccine candidate," Haynes said. "We have more problems to solve and that's why the word prototype is in there."

Over the last eight years, Haynes and Thomas Palker, a Duke immunologist/virologist, have taken short pieces of the outer protein coat of four

strains of HIV and synthetically linked them together. The result is a prototype vaccine that can't pass on AIDS but can trigger an immune-system response against the synthetic vaccine.

It is impossible for the vaccine to cause AIDS because, while it contains parts of four strains of the virus, it doesn't contain the parts that cause it to attack the body or reproduce.

"This is not a live virus, so it doesn't have the capacity to cause the disease," Haynes said.

But the vaccine does have enough of the virus to make the body think it is being invaded

and thus trigger a specific immune-system response.

The experimental vaccine has been used on mice, goats, rhesus monkeys and chimpanzees, and it successfully triggered an anti-HIV immune response in those animals, Haynes said. One of the many questions facing Haynes and Palker is whether the immune-system response in humans will be strong enough to kill the invading virus.

The vaccine would be delivered in two forms, first through a shot in the arm to stimulate an immune-system response and then in a pill.

# California gays, vets react to new military guidelines

SAN DIEGO, Thursday, Dec. 23 (AP)—Military officials in San Diego say the release of new Pentagon regulations on gays in uniform won't have much immediate impact.

But enlisted personnel, veterans and gays gave the new rules a mixed review.

Capt. Mark Neuhart, a Navy spokesperson in San Diego, said the guidelines should help commanders.

"It actually defines the parameters of what is and is not homosexual conduct," Neuhart said. "As a result, it

will make the commanding officer's job a bit easier in defining homosexual conduct."

Col. Fred Peck, a spokesperson for Camp Pendleton, said the announcement was a non-event for military men and women there.

"It's a Washington event," Peck said after Defense Secretary Les Aspin announced the new guidelines in the nation's capitol.

"It will touch us in about six weeks. We're still waiting out here for the directions to

be translated into Marine Corps policy," Peck said.

At Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5477, Bill Gibbs said most veterans' organizations oppose gays in the military.

"I'm a Vietnam veteran, Army," Gibbs said. "I was a grunt, infantry. It's too rough for (gays)."

"It might be OK on ships," Gibbs said. "But in the infantry all you've got is a rifle, grenades, 75 pounds on your back and 45 pounds on your front. It's too rough as far as

relying on one of those individuals."

One gay sailor, who asked that his last name not be used, said the policy is flawed.

"It's ridiculous to allow us to be gay but not allow us to behave as gays, to go out and have relationships," said James, a petty officer second class assigned to an amphibious ship.

Eric Nelson, a board member of the San Diego Veterans Association, a primarily gay association, was unimpressed with the rules.

"It is not an improvement for gays and lesbians in the military," Nelson said. "Gays in the military are just as fearful for their jobs as they ever were."

But James, the gay sailor, said a more liberal policy might be adopted in the future.

"I'm waiting for the day to come when I don't have to worry about putting a picture of my lover on my desk and telling people who he is," James said.

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# Harassment, assault incidents on the rise in Idaho

By KEN OLSEN MOSCOW  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

MOSCOW, Idaho, Wednesday, Dec. 22 (AP)—Someone clipped Sean Masterton from behind as he walked down Moscow's Sixth Street on the night of Oct. 16.

Masterton pitched forward to his knees and then was pushed into a tree.

He rolled away as his assailant screamed "faggot" and ran off. Masterton fled, too.

It took him awhile to realize he had been gay bashed. Masterton still didn't call the police; he just tried to forget about it.

He doesn't have much faith that the police would realize the significance of the incident and would chalk it up as just

another assault.

"Because it's an assault based on someone's political and social beliefs, and since that doesn't change, it could happen again and again," Masterton said.

Masterton decided to come forward so other homosexuals would realize they aren't alone, so they would have the courage to come out. Still, he worries that his action will bring harassment for his friends, his roommates and his co-workers.

He bears surprisingly little animosity toward his attacker. If he could find his assailant, Masterton would simply try to educate the man.

"To him, I suppose I'm just another fag," Masterton said.

"I'd hope to make him see I'm human, that regardless of the number of times he hit me or attacked me, I am who I am," he said. "This is not a choice, this is not something evil I've chosen to do."

Stories like Masterton's and others, along with statistics collected by watchdog groups, indicate gay bashing is increasing on the Palouse and throughout the Northwest.

Between 1991 and 1992, there was a 27-percent increase in malicious harassment incidents, said Bill Wassmuth, executive director of the Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment.

He said the 1993 totals should show about the same number of total incidents as last year, but more incidents directed toward homosexuals. Measures like

the Idaho Citizens Alliance's proposed anti-gay initiative tend "to increase the number of hate crimes, including gay and lesbian bashing," Wassmuth said.

And it's not just a case of more people reporting incidents. In Portland, during the campaign for a similar initiative in Oregon, the number of gay and lesbian bashing incidents recorded by police went from 20 a month to 70. After the election, the numbers dropped again, Wassmuth said.

Washington state forces are gearing up to try to pass a similar initiative and Wassmuth expects the bashing to follow.

"It gets pretty ugly. It divides people horrendously," Wassmuth said.

# Woman complains Fairfax, Va. library has too many gay books

FAIRFAX, Sunday, Dec. 19 (AP)—One of the leaders in the unsuccessful fight to get a weekly newspaper for gays banned from Fairfax County libraries has complained the libraries have too many books favorable to homosexuality.

Karen Jo Gounaud told the county's Library Board she counted 98 book titles dealing with homosexuality in the card catalog. Of those, she said 92 were "sympathetic to the homosexual lifestyle."

She listed as examples such

titles as "Homophobia: How We All Pay the Price," and "Children of Horizons: How Gay and Lesbian Teens Are Leading the Way Out of the Closet."

Ms. Gounaud asked the board to buy more books that say homosexual acts are illegal in Virginia and that being gay should be avoided.

"There is no fairness and there is no balance in the books that have been bought, especially in the last few years," Ms. Gounaud said.

"We base our selection on

what is selling well, what is in the national eye and what is reviewed," in journals, magazines and newspapers, said Julie Pringle, head of the four-librarian team that chooses new books.

"If it looks like the collection is getting unbalanced, we do everything we can to correct that."

Ms. Gounaud was part of a group of parents and conservative Christians that sought to get the Washington Blade removed from the library's 22 branches earlier

this year. The Library Board refused, and the Board of Supervisors threaten to dissolve the Library Board if it did not reconsider.

The Library Board declined, and the supervisors backed down.

In other actions last week, the Library Board agreed to allow parents to know what books their children had checked out.

By an 8-1 vote, the board approved a policy that will allow parents to get a list of the books currently on loan to

their children. The new rule will take effect Jan. 1.

Some parents, who complained about the old policy that kept such matters private, said they simply wanted to know if children had any overdue books. Others said the rule clashed with their authority to decide what sort of reading material is appropriate for their children.

Under the new policy on checkout records, parents may sign a form giving them access to their child's record until the child turns 18.

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## Court upholds N.Y. agency's authority in 'family member' dispute

By CHRIS CAROLA  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

ALBANY, N.Y., Tuesday, Dec. 21 (AP)—New York's highest court Tuesday upheld a state housing agency's authority to extend the definition of "family members" to include gay couples in matters concerning rent-regulated apartments.

The Court of Appeals, in a 6-0 ruling, said the Division of Housing and Community Renewal acted within its authority when it amended rent stabilization regulations to protect the rights of the surviving "life partner" of a deceased tenant.

In 1989, the Court of Appeals determined that "family member," when

used in rent-control issues, included the roommate of a deceased tenant, provided there existed a long-term emotional and financial commitment, regardless of the sexes of those involved.

That ruling was hailed as a victory for New York City's gay community, which has been devastated by the AIDS epidemic. Many homosexuals whose partners had died of the disease were being evicted from rent-controlled apartments because existing laws didn't allow for them to inherit the property.

In 1990, Housing and Community Renewal applied the court's ruling to its own rent-stabilization regulations. There are nearly 878,600 rent-

stabilized apartments in New York City and approximately 124,000 rent-controlled dwellings, said agency spokesperson Louis Ganim. There are 53,700 rent-regulated apartments in the rest of the state, he said.

"We simply took a look at our regulations and moved them into what we felt would be compliance with what the court previously said," Ganim said.

Two groups, the Rent Stabilization Association of New York City and the Small Property Owners of New York, sought to have the rent-stabilization regulations declared unconstitutional and invalid. Their attorneys argued that as an administrative agency, Housing and Community

Renewal was overstepping its authority in determining such issues as redefining family structure, inheritance and property rights.

"These issues should be determined by the Legislature, not some bureaucratic agency," said Ronald Hariri, attorney for Small Property Owners.

Hariri said his group is considering taking their case to the U.S. Supreme Court. Sherwin Belkin, attorney for the Rent Stabilization Association, said a further appeal by his client is also possible.

The Court of Appeals ruling upholds a lower court decision that found the housing agency's regulations fell within its realm of authority.

## California woman ordered to stand trial in slaying of lover

VALLEJO, Calif., Thursday, Dec. 23 (AP)—A Vallejo woman has been ordered to stand trial on charges that she beheaded her lesbian lover following testimony from a friend that she confessed to the killing.

Municipal Court Judge Allan P. Carter ordered Roseanne Peterson, 24, to stand trial in Superior Court after a friend testified that Peterson confessed to decapitating her live-in girlfriend, Laura Venable, in March.

Authorities found Venable's body stuffed in a sleeping bag inside a wicker basket in a field off Columbus

Parkway two months later.

Peterson's court appearance on Tuesday was the second in the case. Previous charges against her in connection with the case were dismissed when Judge Carter ruled that her videotaped confession was inadmissible as evidence because it was coerced.

The testimony that prompted Carter to order a trial came from Elvie Hukill, a longtime friend who said Peterson confessed to the crime during several discussions the two had while Peterson, 29, was incarcerated at the Solano County Jail.

Hukill came forward after Carter dismissed the charges.

Venable and Peterson lived together in Vallejo for about 18 months when Venable disappeared in early March. Peterson was arrested the same month after she allegedly threatened police with a crossbow and was shot and wounded by an officer.

Hukill testified Tuesday that she visited Peterson in the Solano County jail the day after Venable's body was found. She said she knew Peterson and Venable had an abusive relationship and that Peterson

had called her to complain and say she feared her lover.

She said she asked Peterson if she had confessed, and Peterson said yes.

"She told me that when she first hurt (Venable), she wanted to call someone, but then something overpowered her," Hukill said.

Peterson, she said, also told her that Venable "was a witch" who acted as if she were possessed" during the killing.

"Laura just laid back and let me do it," Hukill quoted Peterson as saying.



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## Stonewall 25 gets endorsements; new organization forming

### NATIONAL NOTES

(New York, N.Y.)—Financial support and endorsements from the gay and lesbian community have been picking up rapidly in the past several weeks for Stonewall 25, the organization that is planning and staging the International March on the United Nations To Affirm the Human Rights of Lesbian and Gay People scheduled for next June 26 in New York.

In recent weeks, major organizations also have been providing backing for the effort. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the Human Rights Campaign Fund, Amnesty International, the Metropolitan Community Church, Broadway Cares, and the Legacy Fund have expressed their support for the massive march and rally or made significant financial commitments.

In addition, producers of the hit musical "Sunset Boulevard" contributed 30 percent of designated ticket sales from an exclusive premier performance in Los Angeles to Stonewall 25. They join 10 Percent magazine, an official sponsor, and Stadtlanders Pharmacy, who have made financial commitments to Stonewall 25. Stonewall 25 also has begun receiving pledges from individuals. According to Ramirez Murray, these commitments now are averaging almost \$10,000 per week.

Peri Jude Radecic, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, in pledging support for next June's international march and rally, said, "Stonewall will send a message loudly and clearly to elected officials in the U.S. and all around the world that human rights by definition include rights for gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals too. It continues the fight equality and expands it to all countries worldwide."

The International March on The United Nations To Affirm the Human Rights of Lesbians and Gay People next June 26 will be the climax to a month of gay and lesbian activities in New York City, which includes a meeting of the International Lesbian and Gay Association and Gay Games IV, a series of athletic competitions for gay and lesbian athletes from around the world.

### New group plans summit

(Washington, D.C.)—Leaders of Gay & Lesbian Americans (GLA) today

announced final plans to hold a summit in Washington, D.C., to formally organize a new democratically-run national group for the gay and lesbian community. The summit will be held over the Martin Luther King holiday weekend, Jan. 15—16, 1994, at the Georgetown University Law Center, 600 New Jersey Avenue NW, Washington, D.C.

C-SPAN will broadcast portions of the summit nationwide to those unable to attend. To find out when the summit will air, viewers can call the C-SPAN Schedule Hotline at (202) 628-2205.

"At our Leadership Summit this January, GLA will develop plans to empower millions of gay and lesbian Americans to fight for our civil rights. We want to energize the gay and lesbian constituency," said GLA spokesperson Steven Reichert.

"The purpose of the summit is to bring together gay and lesbian grassroots leaders who are interested in forming a national group with state and local chapters. Gays and lesbians from across America are encouraged to attend the summit. Advocates from beyond the Washington Beltway must realize they are our best hope for the future," added Reichert.

Issues to be discussed include: establishing local chapters, utilizing computer bulletin boards to disseminate information, organizing phone-trees and letter writing committees, and developing a gay and lesbian agenda, including sodomy-law repeal and passage of the federal gay and lesbian civil—rights bill.

GLA is encouraging summit attendees to submit two-page proposals on structuring GLA and what issues our agenda should include. Proposals should be mailed to GLA by Jan. 7th for consideration at the summit.

Ann Northrop, a long-time lesbian leader from New York City, formerly of CBS News, will be the summit facilitator.

Those interested in attending the summit are asked to notify GLA by Dec. 31, 1993. Letters of intent to attend should be mailed to GLA, P.O. Box 77533, Washington, D.C. 20013-7533. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Suggested donation for the summit is \$35, but no one will be turned away due to lack of money.

## HIV-positive inmate charged with attacking two guards in El Paso

EL PASO, Texas, Tuesday, Dec. 21 (AP)—A federal prison inmate infected with the virus that causes AIDS has been indicted on two assault charges after biting one guard and scratching another, the FBI says.

The charges against Rodney Dexter Melrose, 37, an inmate at La Tuna federal prison, are not related to the fact he has tested positive for HIV, FBI spokesperson Al Cruz said Monday.

But the attack has caused particular concern for officials at La Tuna, a prison near Anthony, Texas that houses minimum—and medium-security inmates, Cruz said.

"The guards were checked right after the incident and given a blood test that came back negative," he said. "But the doctors said it usually takes at least six months for HIV to show up in a blood test, so they'll be tested again."

Cruz said Melrose set fire to his cell Nov. 12, then refused to cooperate with prison guards who rushed to put out the fire.

While struggling with the guards, Melrose bit one on the hand and scratched another, Cruz said. Melrose was indicted last week.

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## Military commanders given guidelines to gay policy

By JIM ABRAMS  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 23 (AP)—Military patrons of gay bars and paraders for gay rights are safe, but hand-holders are still liable to get drummed out of the service under new Pentagon regulations.

The rules sent to field commanders Wednesday seek to guide them through the intricacies of the new policy of "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" that prohibits homosexual conduct but ends discharges based merely on a person's sexual orientation.

President Clinton was battered early in his administration by his attempt to lift the ban, and the policy that has emerged reflects the resistance of Congress and the military to permitting openly gay men and women to serve.

It also leaves unresolved several lawsuits challenging the constitutionality of the ban, and the question of whether the "don't ask" concept can work in a military traditionally hostile to gays and lesbians.

"If they simply put into effect a policy that punishes service members for declaring that they are gay or lesbian, such a policy cannot withstand constitutional scrutiny," said Lanny Brewer, attorney for Sgt. Justin Elzie, a Marine at Camp Lejeune, N.C., who is suing the Pentagon for trying to discharge him because he announced he is gay.

"We fully expect that there will be lawsuits on this," Defense Secretary Les Aspin said in announcing the regulations. "But we would like to fight them out on the new policy rather than on the old policy."

He argued that since Congress, the military and the administration have backed the changes, the courts may find reason to support it.

"This was an enormously divisive and emotional issue," Aspin said. "I don't want to imply that we think we have unanimous consent here. But we have proceeded to capture the broad middle with this policy."

Naval Petty Officer Keith Meinhold, who was discharged in August 1992 after disclosing his homosexuality on national television, said Wednesday that Aspin "has utterly failed to solve the issue of gays in the military."

Meinhold said the scenarios for when not to open an investigation of a service member were meant to protect heterosexuals. Meinhold re-enlisted in the

Navy this month, after a federal appeals court in Meinhold's court case upheld a judge's order banning discrimination against gays in the military.

The Pentagon laid out several scenarios to help commanders:—A commander should not begin an inquiry if a service member is seen "hanging around" a gay bar. "Going to a gay bar is not a crime, nor does it, in itself, constitute a 'nonverbal statement' by the service member that he is a homosexual."—Joining a gay rights march with a banner saying that lesbians in the military want to end the ban is not in itself incriminating, although it would be "reasonable" for the commander to inquire whether the woman was seeking to make public that she is a lesbian.—Holding hands with a member of the same sex while off-duty does constitute "credible information of homosexual conduct."—If an officer tells a friend he is gay but has engaged in no homosexual acts while in service and intends to continue to refrain from such acts, he could be allowed to stay in the military if a board of inquiry determined he had not engaged in homosexual acts and was unlikely to do so.

"The commander must assure himself that there is that credible information," said Jamie Gorelick, the Pentagon's general counsel. ... Associational activities, like going to a gay parade or reading a magazine, in and of themselves are not credible information."

The Pentagon cited the complexity of the rules, and the need for time to digest them, in issuing orders keeping rank-and-file personnel from talking to reporters about the rules.

"You're talking to people who don't know what the policy is in its particulars," Aspin said. "As soon as they understand what it is, how it's going to affect their lives, we would like you to have a chance to talk to them." The rules go into effect Feb. 5.

The new policy says:—Applicants to the military will not be asked about his or her sexual orientation.—Members will be removed from the service "on the basis of conduct, not sexual orientation."—No criminal investigations of sexual misconduct will be initiated solely to determine a service member's sexual orientation.—Questions about an individual's sexual orientation will not be asked on personnel security questionnaires.—Applicants and service members periodically will be informed of the new rules.

## Lesbians, Overt, Mississippi neighbors dispute center

OVETT, Miss., Tuesday, Dec. 21 (AP)—Two lesbians clashed Tuesday with community leaders opposed to their feminist education center in rural Jones County.

"I am a Deep South Southern feminist, and that is a term that these boys are going to have to understand and reckon with," Wanda Henson said on the Oprah Winfrey Show. "I've got the constitution on my side."

Henson said men in the community have a "slave master mentality."

"I don't feel safe anymore," said Brenda Henson.

Earlier this month, Attorney General Janet Reno was asked to assist the women, who contend they are in danger after receiving threats.

About 250 people opposed to the women met earlier to discuss ways to fight the retreat, called Sister Spirit, Inc.

"I'm concerned about the standards of the community," the Rev. John Allen said on the show taped last week in Chicago. "This is a rural community. It is a family values community. It is a religious community. We're not imposing ourselves on them."

The Hensons, who consider themselves married, said they set up the retreat on a former pig farm to promote women's issues and assist people in need.

"The morality of our children could possibly be affected by constant exposure ... to this lifestyle," opponent James Hendry said.

After the show aired Tuesday, Brenda Henson said supporters began calling offering help.

"It was very emotional for us," she said. "It's been really hateful from a small group of people."

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Jan. 6: Liturgy 7:00 a.m.

**Virginia university: don't stare at, harass gays**

By ANNE GEARAN  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

FAIRFAX, Sunday, Dec. 19 (AP)—In a leaflet handed out to students, George Mason University cautioned against offending gays and lesbians by staring at them or by keeping a physical distance during conversation.

The leaflet distributed on campus this month classifies what constitutes harassment or discrimination against homosexuals. The pamphlet reminds students that discrimination against homosexuals is not permitted on campus.

A prominent economics professor at George Mason, Walter Williams, poked fun at the leaflet in a recent nationally syndicated column. He mused that he needed to call university president George Johnson for a ruling on exactly how many inches he should stand from a homosexual.

"While I have the president's ear I shall seek counsel on how long you can look at homosexuals holding hands, or otherwise physically connected, before it constitutes an illegal stare," Williams wrote.

In addition to forbidding overt discrimination and harassment such as gay and lesbian jokes or slurs, the university listed a variety of more subtle actions that may offend gays and lesbians.

"Thinking that a homosexual might come on to you," or "jumping when a homosexual touches you on the arm," are offensive reactions, the leaflet says.

The pamphlet, titled "STOP Sexual

Orientation Discrimination and Harassment" says heterosexuals may not realize they are discriminating against or offending gays.

"We must learn that our behavior—however harmless it might seem—can often harm someone else's sense of self-worth," the pamphlet says.

It cautions that heterosexuals should not assume all homosexuals are promiscuous or believe that homosexuals are corrupting society.

"It would be laughable if it did not have the consequences that these speech and behavior codes have on college campuses," Williams said in an interview.

George Mason spokesperson Daniel Walsch said the leaflet is part of George Mason's diversity program but does not represent university policy.

"It was just designed to make employees and students more sensitive to the issue," Walsch said. "It's not a directive as to how all of us should start acting."

The leaflet is one in a series published by the school's Equity Office.

Another pamphlet addressed racial discrimination in a similar fashion. Unintentional racial discrimination includes using a patronizing tone or acting surprised when a minority performs a task well, it said. Ignoring or interrupting a minority is also offensive, the pamphlet said.

Williams, who is black, did not write about the racial discrimination leaflet when it appeared earlier this fall. "It was along the same lines, but not as silly," Williams said.

All speech and behavior codes are dan-

gerous to free speech and free thought, Williams said.

He cited codes forbidding "inappropriate laughter" at one American college and rules against "conspicuously avoiding conversation," at others.

"They're all ridiculous," he said.

Campus speech and behavior codes have been controversial at several schools, including the University of Pennsylvania, where a student was chastised for calling a group of black sorority sisters "water buffalo."

Antioch University's policy that all sexual activity must be agreed upon in advance was widely publicized.

Kristopher Futrell, president of the George Mason Student Government, said in some cases behavior and speech guidelines do need to be spelled out.

"For some people it is necessary to do that. I value this as a way to increase awareness and sensitivity to things that people might otherwise take for granted or blow off," Futrell said.

George Mason, with 21,300 students, has had few incidents of racial or homosexual discrimination, students and administrators said.

"At our school people can be very supportive," said Brad Berlage, co-chair of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Student Association. "I haven't really come across any major discrimination, although I know a few people have had problems."

Gay rights were featured in a campus program earlier this year. The administration declared dormitories "Hate-free Zones" and November was named a "Hate-free Month."

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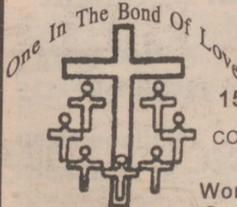
Rev. Janet Parker

**Q:** "If we are supposed to tithe 10% of our gross income, must it all go to one source, i.e., the church? Do charitable contributions count toward the 10%? After all, Jesus did say, "Feed my sheep" and "If someone asks you for something, you should give it to them."

**A:** There is a good illustration found in the book of Malachi (the last book of the Old Testament) 3:10 that tells us where our tithe is to be placed. This is how it reads: "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." Another translation says to bring a full tenth of what you earn. The word, "storehouse" means the treasury. It is viewed as the receptacle for provisions. All the people were to bring their tithes (10%) and put them into the treasury of the tabernacle. From the treasury the priests who served God day and night, received their wages. The remaining funds were then used to meet the needs of the widows and poor people. As you can see, charitable giving was very much a part of God's plan. God set up the plan so that all of the people's tithe would come to the same receptacle and then be dispersed. What this provided for was opportunity for the people to place God first in their life. We are asked to give thanks to our Provider upon the receiving of any blessing in our life including finances. When a person is left to their own to dispense of their money, human nature takes over and we tend to get slack in our giving. If we are not accountable to anyone for our giving back to God, the enemy can have a good time with procrastination. Good intentions are not obedience. Good intentions do not yield blessings in our lives. The storehouse was something like a granary. The grain is poured into the top and the chute is at the bottom where the grain is dispensed. You can imagine how much grain would come pouring out when it was full. God tells us that heaven is full of blessings. Only when we put our tithe in at the top do we have the opportunity to receive the blessing from the chute at the bottom. Once again, we are tempted to want to cling to our money and be independent in how it is used. God reminds us that we are stewards or managers of our resources, and not the owner. If a person trusts the church to handle their finances in a wise manner, then give as unto the Lord. If a person does not trust the church to seek God's counsel in spending wisely, they generally will not give. If that is the case, then you need to find another church. The Old Testament gave us the guideline on tithing 10%. The New Testament tells us that God wants us to give generously in every way. If we follow that law, then 10% becomes a minimal standard. One of my favorite scriptures around tithing is found in Luke 6:38, "Give and you will receive. You will be given much. Pressed down, shaken together, and running over, it will spill into your lap. The way you give to others is the way God will give to you."

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## Group launches anti-gay rights drive in Arizona

By WILLIAM F. RAWSON  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

PHOENIX, Wednesday, Dec. 22 (AP)—Arizona is the next target for a group backing anti-gay-rights campaigns in 11 states.

A statewide petition drive was launched Wednesday in an effort to place an anti-gay-rights constitutional amendment on the ballot in Arizona next year.

The proposed amendment, similar to one struck down by a Colorado judge earlier this month, would prohibit state and local governments from passing ordinances protecting homosexuals from discrimination.

Gay rights supporters vow to fight the effort, which they view as an attack on their civil rights.

"We see this as an attempt to legalize discrimination against our sons and daughters," said Buena Reed, a board member of P-FLAG, a gay support group.

But Frank Meliti, chairperson of the Traditional Values Coalition of Arizona, the group behind the petition drive, said the effort is aimed at preventing gays from obtaining "special rights" that no one else enjoys.

"This is not an initiative that discriminates," Meliti said. "All we're asking for is an even ball field."

Meliti's group is affiliated with the Traditional Rights Coalition of America, an Anaheim, Calif.-based group that has sponsored similar initiatives in at least 10 other states.

Lou Sheldon, the group's chairperson, said homosexuals should not get the same legal protection as ethnic minorities

because theirs is a "behavior-based lifestyle."

"I have never met a former black, a former Hispanic or a former Asian, but I have met hundreds of former homosexuals," Sheldon said.

The amendment was endorsed by state Rep. Russell Bowers, R-Mesa, and the Rev. Henry Barnwell, pastor of the First New Life Missionary Baptist Church of Phoenix and longtime civil rights activist.

"I have decided to support the activities of the Traditional Values Coalition of Arizona as a call to Arizonans to quietly but firmly declare that we believe in a standard," Bowers said.

Barnwell said he supported the amendment because he believes homosexuals choose their lifestyle and that it is "not moral or healthy."

"They are asking for liberties that are not given to heterosexuals," Barnwell said. "They currently have all rights and privileges afforded heterosexuals."

Bill MacDonald, chairperson of the Arizona Human Rights Fund, said gay-rights ordinances in Phoenix and Tucson, which would be invalidated by passage of the amendment, do not grant special rights but prohibit discrimination based on sexual preference.

"No group has special rights, nor should they," MacDonald said. "What gay and lesbian Arizonans want are basic human rights. The right to get and keep a job based on merit is not a special right. Equal access to housing is not a special right."

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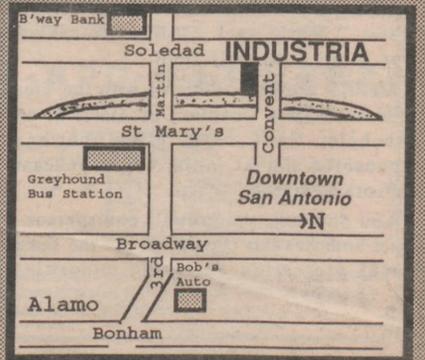
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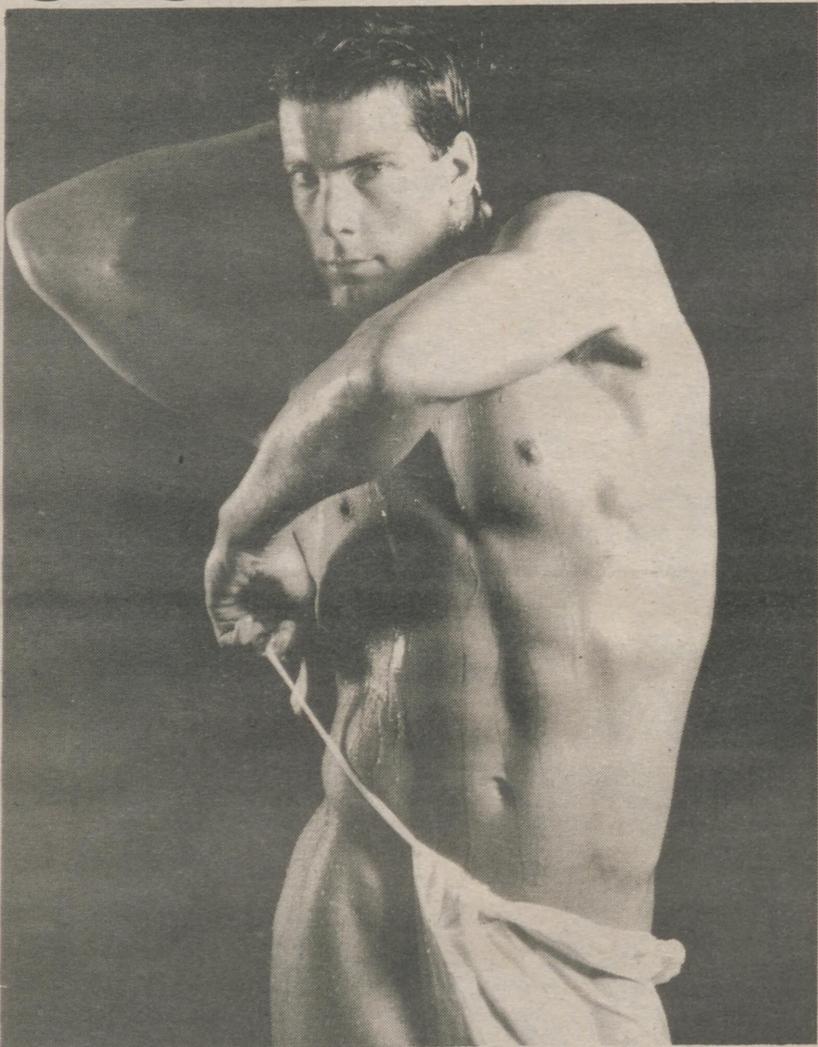
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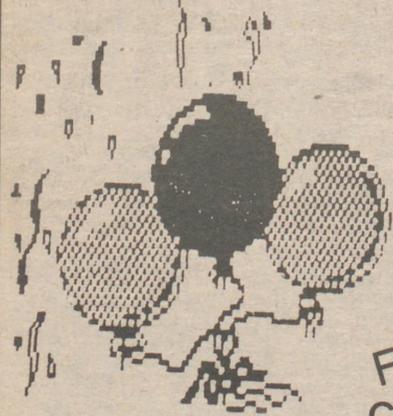
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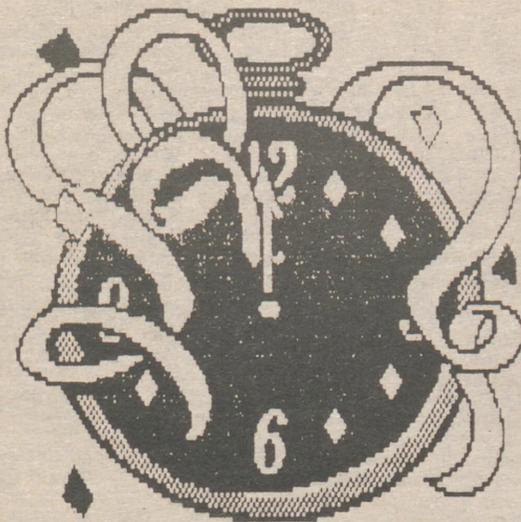
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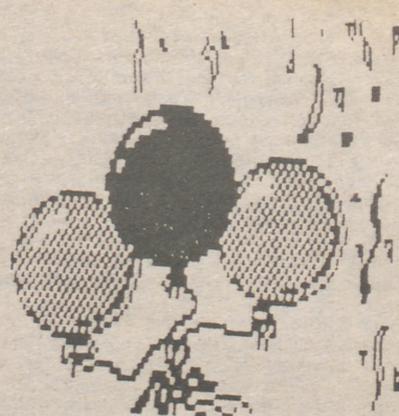
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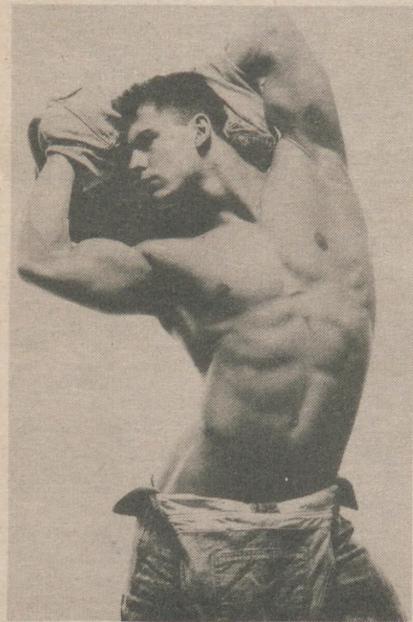
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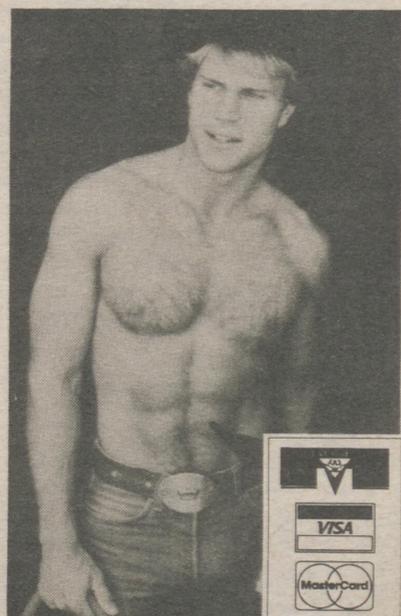
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Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; Blueight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; Happy hour till 10pm, Mother's; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Buffet 4-8pm, Brazos River Bottom; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; TGI Friday party, no cover 7-9pm, Pacific Street; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; 8 Ball Pool Tournament 8pm, Past Time; Pool tournament with cash prizes 8pm, E/J's; Lee Denning, D.J., Venture-N; Strip contest with Paivi 11pm, E/J's; After-hours 2-4am, Ripcord; Open all night, Club Houston; Open all night, Midtowne Spa

## Houston, Saturday, Jan. 1

Blueight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour 7am-7pm, Mary's; Happy hour 7am-8pm, Ripcord; Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Mug club 9am-noon, E/J's; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Beer blast on the patio 2pm till, Mary's; Well drinks \$1.50 4-7pm, E/J's; Mug Club 4-10pm, E/J's; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; \$1.25 well vodka 6-11pm, Mother's; Dart tournament 7pm, E/J's; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; 9 Ball Pool Tournament 8pm, Past Time; 9-ball tourney 8pm, Past Time; Lee Denning, D.J., Venture-N; Leather & Flesh, no cover for men in leather 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; Pretty Boys 10pm, Mother's; Super Saturday Show starring Brittany Paige 11pm, E/J's; After-hours 2-4am, Ripcord; Open all night, Club Houston; Open all night, Midtowne Spa

## Houston, Sunday, Jan. 2

Bloody Bulls, \$1.25 Noon-5pm, Venture-N; Blueight specials noon-5pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour noon-5pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour noon-5pm, Ripcord; Beer blast on patio Noon-6pm, Mary's; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; \$1.50 vodka noon-8pm, Mother's; \$3.75 pitchers & \$1.25 mugs all day, E/J's; Trash Disco 4-7pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour noon-11pm, Past Time; Blue light specials 5pm til, Venture-N; Beach Party, no cover 5-7pm, Pacific Street; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-

7pm, Venture-N; Free buffet 5pm-?, Venture-N; Steak night 5-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Dart tournament 6pm, Venture-N; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Man Dance/T Dance 7pm, Pacific Street; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; \$3.75 pitchers & \$1.25 mugs all night, E/J's; Pretty Boys 10pm, Mother's; Open all night, Club Houston; Open all night, Midtowne Spa

## Houston, Monday, Jan. 3

Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; Blueight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; \$2.50 pitchers, 75¢ mug Miller Lite 7am-2am, Mother's; Happy hour all day & night, Brazos River Bottom; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Lockers 1/2 price noon-midnight, Club Houston; Happy hour 4-8pm, Ripcord; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Spaggggggetti nights, \$2.00 5pm-?, Venture-N; Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; 1/2-price rooms & lockers with food donation to Stone Soup, Midtowne Spa; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; 8 ball slopshot pool tournament 8pm, Brazos River Bottom; "Clubbers Night", no cover for men wearing colors 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; Male Strippers with B.J. Williams, M.C. 10:30pm, E/J's; Open all night, Club Houston; Open all night, Midtowne Spa

## Houston, Tuesday, Jan. 4

Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; Blueight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; 6 month membership special (1/2 price locker) noon-11:45pm, Midtowne Spa; Lockers & rooms 1/2 price noon-midnight, Club Houston; Happy hour 4-8pm, Ripcord; Hot Dog night 5pm til, Past Time; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; 1/2-price rooms & lockers with food donation to Stone Soup, Midtowne Spa; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; Southern Country C&W Dance Lessons 8-10pm, The Ranch; Young executive night, no cover with personalized business card 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; C&W dance lessons 10pm, Brazos River Bottom; Talent night with Giovanni 10:30pm, E/J's

## Houston, Wednesday, Jan. 5

Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; Blueight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; Happy hour, \$1.00 Margaritas 7am-11pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy Hour

\$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; 6 month membership special ((1/2 price room) noon-11:45pm, Midtowne Spa; Happy hour 1pm-2am, Ripcord; Tex-Mex Buffet 5pm, Brazos River Bottom; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; 1/2-price rooms & lockers with food donation to Stone Soup, Midtowne Spa; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Bare chest/harness night-Extended Happy Hour til 11pm, Venture-N; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; Karaoke night with Bill Sansom 8:00pm, E/J's; Southern Country Group C&W Dance Lessons 8:30pm-10pm, Brazos River Bottom; White Hot Wednesday, DJ/VJ Victor Toledo plays top hits 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; Pretty Boys 10pm, Mother's; Open all night, Club Houston; Open all night, Midtowne Spa

## Houston, Thursday, Jan. 6

Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; Blueight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Longnecks \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; \$1 Schnapps shots 7am-2am, Mother's; \$1.50 longnecks all day & all night, Brazos River Bottom; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Rooms & lockers half price noon-midnight, Club Houston; Slop shot pool tourney 1pm, Mary's; Happy hour 4-8pm, Ripcord; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; Burger's at Animal's House 6-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Club night, Colors gets you happy hour prices til 11pm, Venture-N; Dance lessons 8:30pm, Brazos River Bottom; Tan Line Night, \$3 cover, 90¢ well, \$1.50 longnecks, \$1 Schnapps 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; Pretty Boys 10pm, Mother's; Open all night, Club Houston; Open all night, Midtowne Spa

## Houston, Friday, Jan. 7

Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; Blueight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; Happy hour till 10pm, Mother's; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Buffet 4-8pm, Brazos River Bottom; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; TGI Friday party, no cover 7-9pm, Pacific Street; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; 8 Ball Pool Tournament 8pm, Past Time; Pool tournament with cash prizes 8pm, E/J's; Lee Denning, D.J., Venture-N; Strip contest with Paivi 11pm, E/J's; After-hours 2-4am, Ripcord; Open all night, Club Houston; Open all night, Midtowne Spa

# Houston Un-Classifieds

To advertise call Houston local number (713) 529-8490-5 Mon.-Fri.

### AMERICAN MOVERS

Your careful neighborhood movers, our 10th year in business. Call Frank at 522-1717.

### PENIS -NIPPLE ENLARGE-MENT. GAIN 1-3"

Custom vacuum pumps -professional instruction. Safe-permanent erection -masturbation enhancement. Dr. Joel Kaplan 1 (800) 987-PUMP.

### HOLIDAY HELP?

Are you having those holiday "CRAZIES" because you can't get everything done? Call Ray! Honest and energetic. Pager (713) 268-0027.

Rental Property Owner needs helper for office and maintenance duties. Free apartment, small salary, incentive bonuses. (713) 786-0955.

"Private studio available hourly for photographers, art classes etc. (713) 847-1513."

# Texas Un-Classifieds & Gay Personals

For Houston Gay Personals, see separate listing

To advertise call toll free 1-800-729-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5.

To respond a Personals advertiser and to hear his actual voice describing himself and the people he would like to meet, call 24 hours 1-900-454-3576. (\$1.49/min. on your phone bill. You must be 18+) OR you can call 1-800-729-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5 for more information or to establish a pre-paid toll-free answering account.

### GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

I'm 43, married, 160, 5'10, Haz/bl, discreet, no drugs, HIV-, Friday nights free. Clean, looking for buddies & friendship. Ad 25598

### SAN ANTONIO: GLASSY EYED ITALIAN MALE

Me: I'm 5'10", 160, olive complexion, good looking Italian male, very romantic, fun loving. You: A mature professional BM to satisfy my romantic and other needs. In or out of San Antonio area. Ad 25915

# HOUSTON VOICE personals

One of the LARGEST gay personal sections in the U.S.

Our very own! All are REAL! All are CURRENT! All are from readers of The New Voice.



### To PLACE a Personal Ad by Phone:

First, before you call, write out your ad. Use up to 6 words in a bold headline and up to 50 words in regular type. Then call our local number in your city: Austin 478-4245 Baton Rouge 346-8617  
Beaumont 800-300-8271 Galveston 800-300-8271 Houston 529-8490  
New Orleans 524-3279 San Antonio 226-1833 Elsewhere (713) 529-8490

After you've read your ad to us, and we prepare it to go into print, we will give you an 800 toll-free telephone number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-letter PIN. Call the 800 number using a touch-tone phone and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad. (Somewhere in your verbal ad, say what city you live in.)

Cost: \$24.95 for up to a year. We will mail you a bill.

You can change your ad as often as desired during the year. You must call us every 4 weeks to keep the ad running.

### To PLACE a Personal Ad by Mail:

Write out your ad using up to 6 words in a bold headline and up to 50 words in regular type. Then, mail it with your check for \$24.95 to New Voice Personals, 408 Avondale, Houston, TX 77006.

We will mail back to you an 800 toll-free telephone number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-letter PIN. Call the 800 number and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad.

You can change your ad as often as desired during the year. But you must call us or mail us a note every 4 weeks to keep the ad running.

### To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Phone:

Call 1-900-454-3576. Listen to the verbal instructions. A charge of \$1.49 per minute will appear on your telephone bill from "Multiquest." Call (713) 529-8490 for information about this service. You must be 18.

You can respond verbally, leaving your name and phone number, to as many personal advertisers as you wish. You can also browse through all the personal advertisers until you hear someone that interests you. As the individual advertisers periodically check their incoming verbal mailboxes, they will retrieve your response. Additionally, you can listen to verbal ads placed through other major gay newspapers in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Miami, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Orlando, Raleigh and San Diego.

### To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Mail:

Mail each response separately to New Voice Personals, 408 Avondale, Houston, TX 77006. Write the 5-digit ad number on the outside of the envelope. Your response will be forwarded unopened to the advertiser. (Do not mail multiple responses in a single envelope. Only individually-sealed, first-class, personal responses will be forwarded.)

### To RECEIVE Responses to Your Personal Ad:

We will forward to you daily, unopened, at no charge, all responses received by mail.

To see if you have any verbal messages waiting to be retrieved, call the 800 toll-free number we gave you when you placed your ad. Follow the verbal instructions. If the recording there says you have verbal responses waiting, have your 5-digit code and secret 4-digit PIN handy and call 1-900-454-3576 to retrieve your verbal responses. A charge of \$1.49 per minute will appear on your telephone bill as "Multiquest." Call (713) 529-8490 for information about this service. You must be 18.

### RULES of Etiquette:

All personal ads, and all responses to personal ads, should be in good taste. An advertiser may not describe sexual activity or anatomy. All advertising should be "positive." That is, describing only those people or traits desired. (People or traits not desired must not be listed.)

### Additional REQUIREMENT:

To take advantage of this \$24.95-per-year extraordinary offer, we require that you participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Voice Phone Personals by calling a special 1-800 number we will give you at the time you place your ad. There, by following the verbal instructions, you will record, in your own actual voice, your personal ad.

If you do NOT participate in this "live voice" aspect of our Voice Phone Personals, you will not be eligible for the \$24.95 per year unlimited rate but may instead purchase a personal ad at our regular rate of 55 cents per word per week.

# Houston Gay Personals

To advertise call Houston local number (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5.

To respond to an advertiser and to hear his actual voice describing himself and the people he would like to meet, call 24 hours 1-900-454-3576. (\$1.49/min. on your phone bill. You must be 18+.) OR you can call (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5 for more information or to establish a pre-paid toll-free answering account.

All ads in this category should be strictly individual to individual. No commercial offerings. Nothing for sale. No promotions.

## HUG, SQUEEZE & PLEASE

GWM 37, 5'10", 185, brown/brown, med. blt., moustache, contacts/glasses. Enjoy going out on occasion, the outdoors, jogging, quiet evenings, cooking, cuddle up, kiss, etc. I'm S.E. inside the loop, also occasionally out to Cypress/Cy Fair area. I'm passive looking for get togethers. Nothing serious for now. Ad 25612

## DOMINANT GWM

40, 145, 5'9 seeks GWMs into S/M -B/D. Limits respected. Ad 25336.

## FEISTY, FEMININE FEMALE WANTED!

You: very feminine, small/medium build, uninhibited, playful, intimate, conversationalist, positive attitude. Me: GWF, 105lbs, 5'3", long blonde hair, blue eyes, soft butch, assertive, flirtatious, likes having fun. Ad 25553.

## BLACK ATTACK!

Very good-looking GWM, crazy about experiencing black guys. I'm 6 ft. tall, well-muscled, trendy, work out regularly. I'm safe, disease-free and ready to go. Not interested in relationships - just hot fun. You gotta respond to this! Let's go! Ad 25531.

## MARRIED MEN

Spend quality time day or night w/semi-retired GWM in Houston. Ad 25328

## SUBMISSIVE MEN!

are sought by Houston man (44, 5'9", 180, hairy, aggressive, demanding). Seeking 21-48, masculine, any race. I travel on business so out-of-town replies are welcome. Ad 25134

## NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?

Mature, professional, very hairy body/hairy chest, Edwardian beard, (sign of Cancer) . You, mentally mature, non-smoker, into safe fun. Please respond to Ad 25916.

## GWM 54, SEEKS GM 18-35

Looking for that special someone, must be drug free, I am 6'1", br/blu eyes. Interests include dining out, movies, astrology, numerology and other new age subjects. Want someone to love, caress, appreciate you? To depend on? Please respond to Ad#25984.

## WANT A GREAT SPECIAL FRIEND?

I am and you will be masculine acting and sounding, GWM/GHM, attractive, under 45 years of age, sincere, weight in proportion to height, posses a great sense of humor, reasonably intelligent, non-smoker, non-substance abuser, not into bars or S & M, and have free time for safe get-togethers. Ad 25011.

## GORGEOUS FROM HEAD TO TOE

GWM, 30, 5'10", 170lbs, brown/hazel stocky build. I have my own business, and am looking for a very unique, sincere, generous man to have fun with and spend quality time. Not your ordinary, average, typical guy and looking for the same. Ad 25250

## SMALL TOWN TEXAN SURVIVING IN CITY

HIV-, 38 yr. old GWM, 6', 170lbs, br/br who enjoys bicycling, football, basketball, tennis, camping, hiking, fishing, junk stores, C&W music, movies, television, Nintendo, small towns and travel seeks monogamous relationship with GM 25-40 with same interests. Ad 25288

## ARE YOU A BAD BOY?

I am 40, fit, attractive, muscular and well educated looking for a muscular or in shape GWM for some mutual experimentation. Ad 25298

## ATTENTION: WHITE CALVIN WEARERS

GWM, Daddy bear, 43, 5'6", moustache, balding, hunky, HIV-. Successful professional with a dry sense of humor and a lot of energy. Not looking for love, relationship, or anything serious-just someone who wants to play and who likes to cuddle after. If you are 23-35, straight, bi, or gay, athletic, and look hot in white calvins, why not give it a try? Attorneys, architects, doctors a plus. Ad 25387

## LONELY BIWM ROOKIE LEANING TOWARDS MALES

I'm 5'6", weight proportionate, DDF/NS/LD, average looks, 44, sincere, discreet, masculine, likes sports, reading, movies, dining out and intimate evenings plus a BIGWM with same qualities as above. Experienced, average looks, height/weight proportionate 30-50, DDF/NS/LD equals safe fun times -no strings, let's talk. Let's meet and talk. Ad 25378

## START YEAR RIGHT! (NO GAMES!)

GWM, 29, 5'10", 163lbs, w/above average looks. HIV+ for 6 years and with perfect health. Looking for GW or GH that is also in great health, masculine in appearance, attitude. I'm very adventurous, spontaneous, fun loving, love animals, nature and would like someone to share my life with and stop being alone. You won't be disappointed. Serious need only reply. Ad 25270

## WHITE KNIGHT SEEKS MR. RIGHT!

GWM, 32, green eyes, blond hair, medium build, versatile! Looking for a one on one relationship with no games! I am HIV+ but very healthy and active. I love life and just want someone to share it with! Please sincere responses only, all replies answered. Ad 25910

## ARE WE SEEKING EACH OTHER?

Why should we both be lonely? I'm a mid-50, br/bl, 250, 5'8", bearded, PASSIVE, GWM, seeking a younger ACTIVE GM. You're physical attributes/race are totally unimportant. I'm sincere/honest and expect the same from you. I'd love to share good times, quiet moments, dreams, enjoyment, and allow friendships to grow to a relationship. Ad 25911.

## EXCEPTIONAL ERUDITE ECLECTIC IN ESCROW

BIWM, 35, 5'7", 155, college graduate, attractive, interesting, romantic. Hobbies include film, art, tennis and politics. Looking for athletic, masculine acting/looking man to share a monogamous, honest, mature relationship with, built on friendship and similar interests. Ad 25925

## QUALITY +

If you are a decent, quality guy, young and slim, and would enjoy some gay fun times with a decent quality professional, GWM, 52, who will treat you right please contact me. Ad 25947.

## READ THIS NOW, ALL GF'S!

Beautiful friendship takes natural love, and vice versa, of course, so be my mirror of patience, understanding, acceptance, honesty, sincerity, cleanliness, attractiveness and friendliness because I just love looking at my totally irresistible self and knowing no one else's eyes but yours! Ad#25967

## LONDON, PARIS, SYDNEY, NEW YORK CITY

Travel companion wanted for traveling around the USA and the world. Travel agent needs reliable and responsible GM to accompany him to split cost at discounted prices. Must be non-smoker and drug free. Prefer light drinker to non-drinker. Passport required. Possible relationship. Ad 25972

## SANE EXPRESSIVE COMPANION

Sought by GBM, 5'10", 195#, healthy, HIV+, drug/alcohol/smoke free. I am affectionate, sincere, realistic, spontaneous, honest and enjoy the company of men who have like qualities. Prefer ages 30-45, w/h proportion, facial hair, tall, but not required. Interest include but not limited to movies, music, theater and life outside the bars. Friendship encouraged, relationship possible. Respond to Ad 25974.

## SEEKING AFFECTIONATE, FUN, GENEROUS, FRIENDLY GENTLEMAN

I'm tall, athletic, healthy, hairy, handsome, sensual, affectionate, fun, friendly, sincere, blond, 30's, professional, homeowner. You: fit, weight/height proportionate, affluent, generous gentleman, capable of giving time, affection, friskiness, contributions, gifts, travel etc. Relationship: casual to serious, Privacy, discretion, friendship, companionship assured. Let's spoil and pamper one another. Ad 25978

## ACCOMPLISHED PROFESSIONAL SEEKS YOUNGER MAN

40ish GWM, grad school educated, healthy, HIV+ seeks attractive younger man in Houston for serious relationship. I'm 6'2", 190, br/bl, masculine. Women tell me I'm handsome. If you are the boy-next-door looking for an honest, loving and accomplished man please respond to Ad 25976.

## LOOKING FOR FRIEND

Attractive, well-built 29 yr. old GWM seeks GBM. I am athletic; my favorite sports are biking and running. If you are looking for a warm, sincere person and you are muscular and attractive, please respond to Ad 25979.

## HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

Mid 30's, professional, healthy, sincere, good sense of humor. Seeking other HIV+ men for friendship, but I'm primarily interested in entering a serious relationship with an honest, caring, and loving man. Ad 25987

## I WANNA FEEL WHAT LOVE IS,

I know you can show me, I am a professionally employed homeowner, 40's, DDF, bl/bl, hairy chest, moustache, 5'11", weight in proportion, non-smoker, enjoy movies, dining out, bicycling and travel. Quiet evenings around the fireplace also makes me happy. Want sincere, affectionate man for dating and possible relationship. Ad 25988

## LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT MAN

25-45, masculine, neat in appearance and at home, DDF, NS, (light drinker) who wants to share apartment in a peaceful, quiet, very luxurious atmosphere, with a mature person. Must be financially responsible and able to afford \$400 monthly for his part of rent and utilities. Ad 25700

## GBM WHO DARES TO BE DIFFERENT!

Independent -thinking Gay Black Male with red convertible sports car, seeks someone completely different than oneself. I have every toy a man could want except that elusive Boy-Toy. All I guarantee is a good time! Ad 25707

## LOOKING FOR SINGLES AND COUPLES

We are in our late 30's looking for singles and/or couples for safe fun. We are both DDF. Serious replies only. Ad#25709

## TWO STEPPER SEEKS PARTNER

Attractive GWM, 41, 5'6", br/hazel, moustache, weight proportionate to height, DDF, educated, honest, romantic, affectionate. C&W dancing, sense of humor, great smile, non-smoker, health oriented. Seeks similar individual who is attractive, romantic, fun loving, likes to laugh and enjoy the simple things in life. Ad 25714

## HEY, I KNOW YOU!

You're a GWM 30's to 40's, smart, stable, secure and masculine. You have integrity, wit, optimism and charm. This GWM, 36, 6'2", 175, br/bl is all the above plus compassionate, comfortable to be around, upbeat, adventurous and an extrovert. I wish to capture the heart and hand of a singular gentleman. Ad 25716

## LOOKING FOR A FEW MASCULINE FRIENDS

I'm a 35 yr. old attractive WM, 6', long br/br eyes, moustache and beard, HIV+. Like working on my own car, camping, four wheeling, rafting, rock-n-roll and safe fun times. Not necessarily in that order. I'm looking for friends with similar interests. Ad 25719

## WHAT IS LOVE?

Someone who relates to life's ups and downs. GWF, 24, 5'3", Hazel eyes, lt. brown hair, mid-masculine build, shy, loving/caring, energetic, settled, totally independent. Looking for the same. Must be DDF, feminine female, 24-30. Race not important. If you can help me mend my broken heart please respond to Ad 25721.

## GENTLE TOP SEEKS BOTTOM

GWM, 48, 6'2", ht/wt proportionate, balding/blue, hairy body, physically fit, DDF, NS, lite alcohol, professional, educated, mature, masculine, honest, sincere, enjoy arts, movies, gym, outdoors, cuddler, active, sensitive, caring, nice guy. Seeking GM alive, fun, physically fit, smart, masculine, DDF, NS, bottom, smoother the better, employed, career minded for dating maybe monogamous relationship. Ad#25726

## INTRIGUING, VERY MASCULINE

GWM, young, black hair/blue eyes, professional, 5'10", 180, in great shape, good attitude and very focused and successful. Very open to meeting new people. Ad25730

Young professional married bi-sexual seeks discreet female for one on only interludes and lasting friendship. Age unimportant. Sincerity and discretion is of utmost importance. Ad#25729

## WANTED: ACTIVE GWM

GWM, 5'10", 44, balding, dk. br/green eyes, hirsute, beard, HIV+, passive, seeks a man for friendship or possibly more. Prefer a taller masculine man who enjoys staying home, cuddling, watching T.V., theater, walks and the finer things in life! Country lovers a plus! Ad 25731

## RESCUE ME FROM LIMBO!

I'm a GHM, 27, 5'9", average/slim, DDF/NS/LD who's lived without other gay friends or experiences. I'm in need of special friends to help me experience gay life and love. You, GWM/GHM, under 35, DDF, average/attractive, non-kicker. No expectations beyond friendship. Fireworks may follow later for that special person. Ad 25732

Very attractive, butch Hispanic, body builder in San Antonio, 29, 5'6", looking for an attractive health conscious man up to 45 years of age, under 5'10" with a sense of humor and caring heart. Interests are art, weight lifting, dancing and ghost stories. I gave up looking for Mr. Right in San Antonio. Could you be in Houston? Ad 25733

## SPANKINGS NEEDED

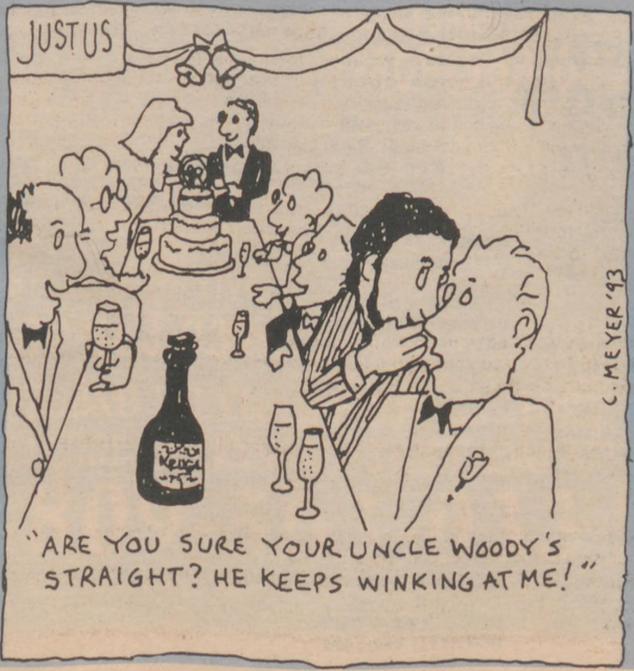
WM, 33, needs older white gentleman (mid 50's late 60's) to help me correct my behavior by administering spankings. Must be safe, sane and want to help me grow as a person via meaningful discipline. Ad 25734

## BABY WANTED

by professional, stable, handsome, masculine, gay white male --interested in attractive, professional lesbian couple for cooperative effort in having a child, or single gay female. Custody in favor of the mothers, but for those women interested in having a child this is an opportunity for a quality male to make that possible. Totally disease free. Ad 25735

## LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL LADY!

GWF, 29, attractive soft butch who is kind, gentle, sincere, caring and sensitive. I enjoy a wide variety of activities. I am seeking a 25-40 feminine woman who walks and talks, laughs and learn about ourselves and each other. She must be attractive, slim / medium build, honest, confident and playful. Let's meet and talk. Ad 25736



# THE LEATHER LINE



CALL NOW!  
TALK LIVE, LOCAL AND NATIONWIDE.  
**1-900-847-4747**

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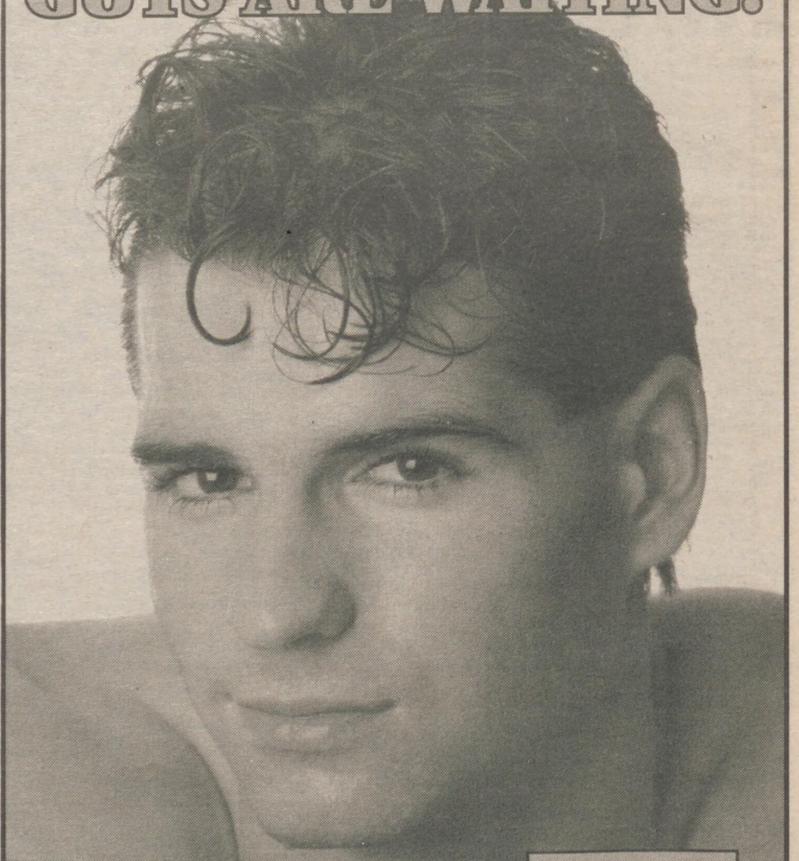
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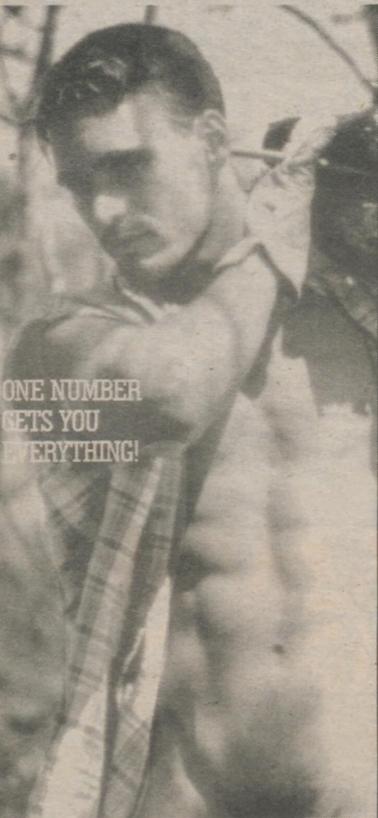
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THE MOST HANDSOME MEN WELCOME

### MEN, WOMEN AND COUPLES SPECIALS THIS WEEK

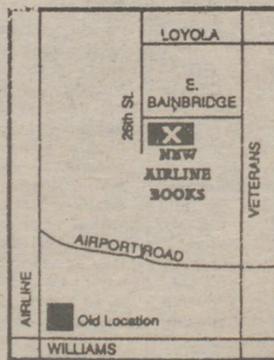
CUT THIS OUT • GOOD THROUGH THUR 1/6/94  
**\$30.00 OFF WITH THIS COUPON**

CUT THIS OUT • GOOD THROUGH THUR 1/6/94  
**PLAY STRIP POKER**  
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Initial names: Ralph Waldo Emerson,  
Donald Trump, Mao Tse-Tung, Earl  
Warren, Helen Reddy, Harry Reasoner.  
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c.1993 GULF FEATURES, Puzzle TSS54

The Texas Puzzle solution

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 Midnight til Closing  
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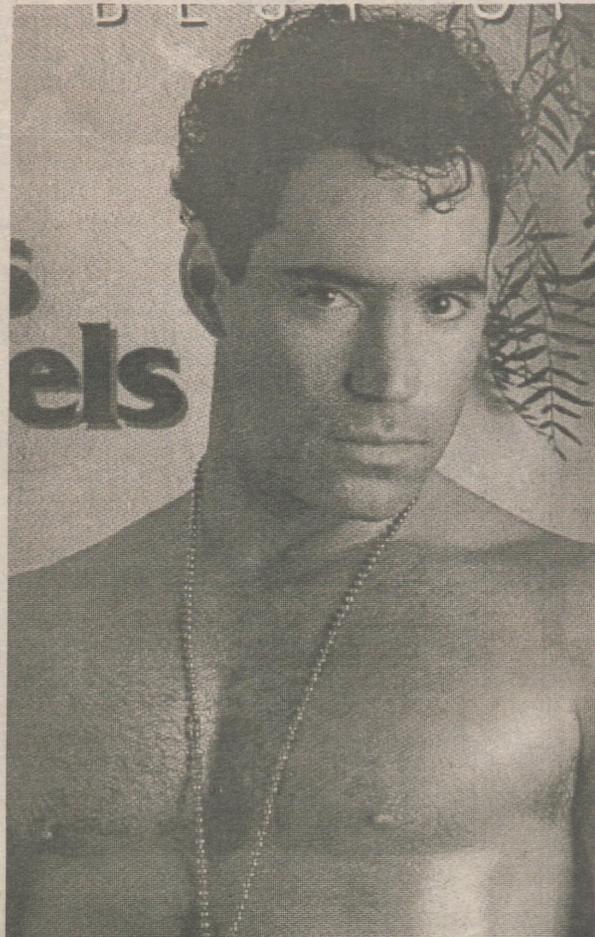
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ALABAMA	(205)	OPR 0

STATE	AREA CODE	PRESS:
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LOUISIANA	(318) (504)	OPR 0

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 Evolution Meehanic xxx-xxxx  
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 Brazos River Bottom 2400 Brazos 528-9192  
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# THE TEXAS PUZZLE

Includes Texas Clues, Current U.S. Events & Standard Crossword Clues

**ACROSS**  
 1 central processing unit  
 4 fatigued  
 5 went or gone  
 6 lowest

female voices  
 8 this is the object of the game of football, abbrev.  
 10 central parts  
 12 Ross Perot's birthplace  
 15 family of young  
 18 symbol for chemical element nickel  
 19 eerie  
 22 world's tallest, 114 feet, is in Littlefield, Texas  
 25 clear  
 26 Spanish for 'the'  
 27 official abbrev. for Canada's north-

western territory, capital Whitehorse  
 28 thrown in a high arc  
 31 thin  
 33 group that includes the speaker  
 34 initials of TV news journalists Mudd & MacNeil  
 35 droop  
 37 direction Amarillo to Brownsville, abbrev.  
 38 singer "I Am Woman" Reddy or

news broadcaster Reasoner, initials

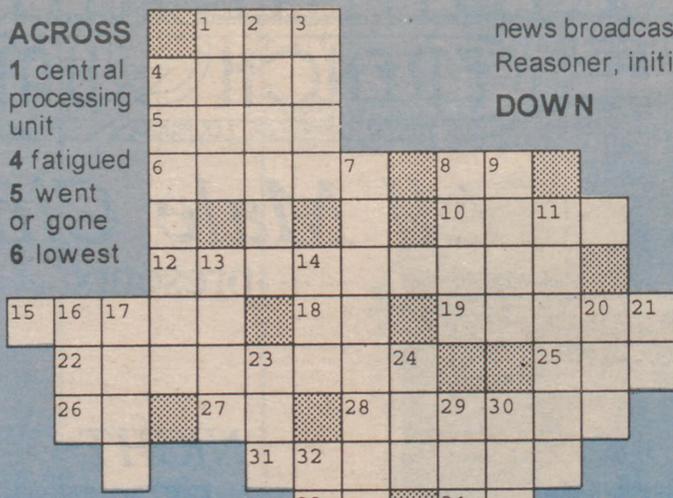
**DOWN**

1 wind in a spiral  
 2 before tax deductions  
 3 reverse the doing of  
 4 newsman Dan Rather's 1931 Texas birthplace  
 7 with an elevation in pitch  
 8 melt  
 9 hill of sand  
 11 LBJ's middle name  
 13 whirlpool  
 14 New World cuckoo  
 16 19th century American author Emerson, initials  
 17 greasy

20 color of the ruby  
 21 New York magnate Trump, initials  
 23 20th century Chinese Communist leader Mao Zedong, initials of his original English spelling  
 24 fictional TV newsperson Grant  
 29 Panhandle oil boom city that had 40,000 population in 1920's, has 16,000 today  
 30 vagabond  
 32 20th century American jurist Warren, chief justice of U.S. Supreme Court, initials  
 36 cinder

### MORE CLUES

If desired, at these numbers fill in these letters: 1 C, 3 U, 4 W, 6 A, 8 T, 10 H, 17 O, 22 W, 28 L, 29 B, 35 S  
 The solution appears elsewhere this issue  
 c.1993 GULF FEATURES, PUZZLE TXS54



## NEW YEAR'S PARTY TREAT!

from the kitchen of  
**THE KUNTRY KIDD**



How are Y'all this week? I hope some of you were able to try the Jewish Nut Bread Cake. There is one small correction to make on that recipe. The glaze should have been made with 1 tablespoon butter and not 1 teaspoon as was stated.

Now here's a great little recipe to bring in the New Year and get your good luck at the same time!

## Black Eyed Pea Dip

- 1 bag frozen Black Eyed Peas
- 1/2 small Onion - minced
- 1 clove Garlic
- 1 4oz can Green Chiles
- 3 Jalapeno Peppers - chopped
- 1 tbsp Tobasco Sauce

### K.K.'s Helpful Hint:

Cook the peas first according to the package directions. I did not the first time making this and had to replace the blade in my blender. They are hard little guys if still frozen! After the peas are cooked, puree in blender, and add the remaining ingredients and blend well.

Then add:

- 3/4 lb. Sharp Cheddar Cheese - grated
- 1/2 lb. Melted Butter

Serve warm in chafing dish. Use any kind of chips you prefer. Just be sure the person before you wasn't using Buffalo Chips or you just shot the good luck theory all to hell!



'til next we eat!

K.K.



## GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

### HOROSCOPE FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 31 - JANUARY 7, 1994

Capricorns born first week of 1994 share the creative deductions of Sherlock Holmes. Do you have a Mr. Watson in your life?

**CAPRICORN** (Dec 21 - Jan 19) After this New Year's high energy weekend you will enter a three week period of being introspective and very sensitive to your environment. Be careful about wearing your heart on 'your sleeve'. If you are honest about yourself, you will have emotional endurance this year.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan 20 - Feb 19) Wear colorful and attention getting clothes this weekend as you will look wonderful. If I am at the same party as you are, I'll back off and let you win the trick to go home with as I am unable to compete. A stylish piece of jewelry, shiny belt, or studded leather looks good.

**PISCES** (Feb 20 - Mar 20) Did you find a Virgo in the bushes last week? If not, look carefully in unusual places for an encounter to spark the start of '94. Your generous attention to friends was wonderful this past week. You set a good example of unconditional caring. You are a good 'catch' in '94.

**ARIES** (Mar 21 - Apr 20) Your Christmas packages were beautiful-love those fancy bows, did not realize that you were so decorative. As with your Aquarius friend above, studded black leather will look great on you this season. This will be a high energy month, be careful about falling in love

**TAURUS** (Apr 21 - May 21) Your extra efforts in making a special relationship work have been noticed, and appreciated. Being rough and tumble will make you exciting to your Peterbilt friend. '94 will be a tremendous year for you. Great happiness and business success are awaiting you.

**GEMINI** (May 22 - June 21) Back your emotions down a bit, and take time to smell the roses during the next two weeks. Your sensual self will enjoy the pleasant fragrance of blooms. Go easy on perfumes and colognes as you tend to over do them. A special Taurus is in favor with you

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 22) These sunny days and a trip to the tanning salon give to you a wonderful healthy glow as you run from party to party. Consider a regular work out schedule and a gym membership with your Christmas cash. A great way to decrease your tension level this winter and meet people.

**LEO** (July 23 - Aug 22) Impressed that you have really tried to get rid of the 'downer' attitude. You have so much to offer to others that your problems and fears are holding you back from enjoying life, especially people. Surround yourself with positive, non user type of friends this month.

**VIRGO** (Aug 23 - Sept 22) Glad that you have been out and about this Holiday season, even though you felt ill at ease in attending parties. Your self esteem will turn upwards and the brighter attitude of your personality will be noticed by close friends. High sugar foods may decrease your energy level.

**LIBRA** (Sept 23 - Oct 22) Never guessed that the handkerchief worn in your left pocket was of interest to you. Exciting. Continue to be specific about your sexual interests and goals. Your play friends are not mind readers. Strong colors will look especially good on you. red, black, and blue.

**SCORPIO** (Oct 23 - Nov 22) Watch your financial status in this post Christmas season, paying off your credit cards promptly. Hold off on major purchases for the present time. An Aries person will catch your fancy. Try being on top this time around as you can be assertive if you wish

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov 23 - Dec 20) Enjoy this Holiday weekend as you are in a high energy mode, and you look wonderful. Bright colors, a bit of fragrance, and a confident body language all work for your social success. Look at your religious attitudes and follow your inclinations to a more spiritual self.